

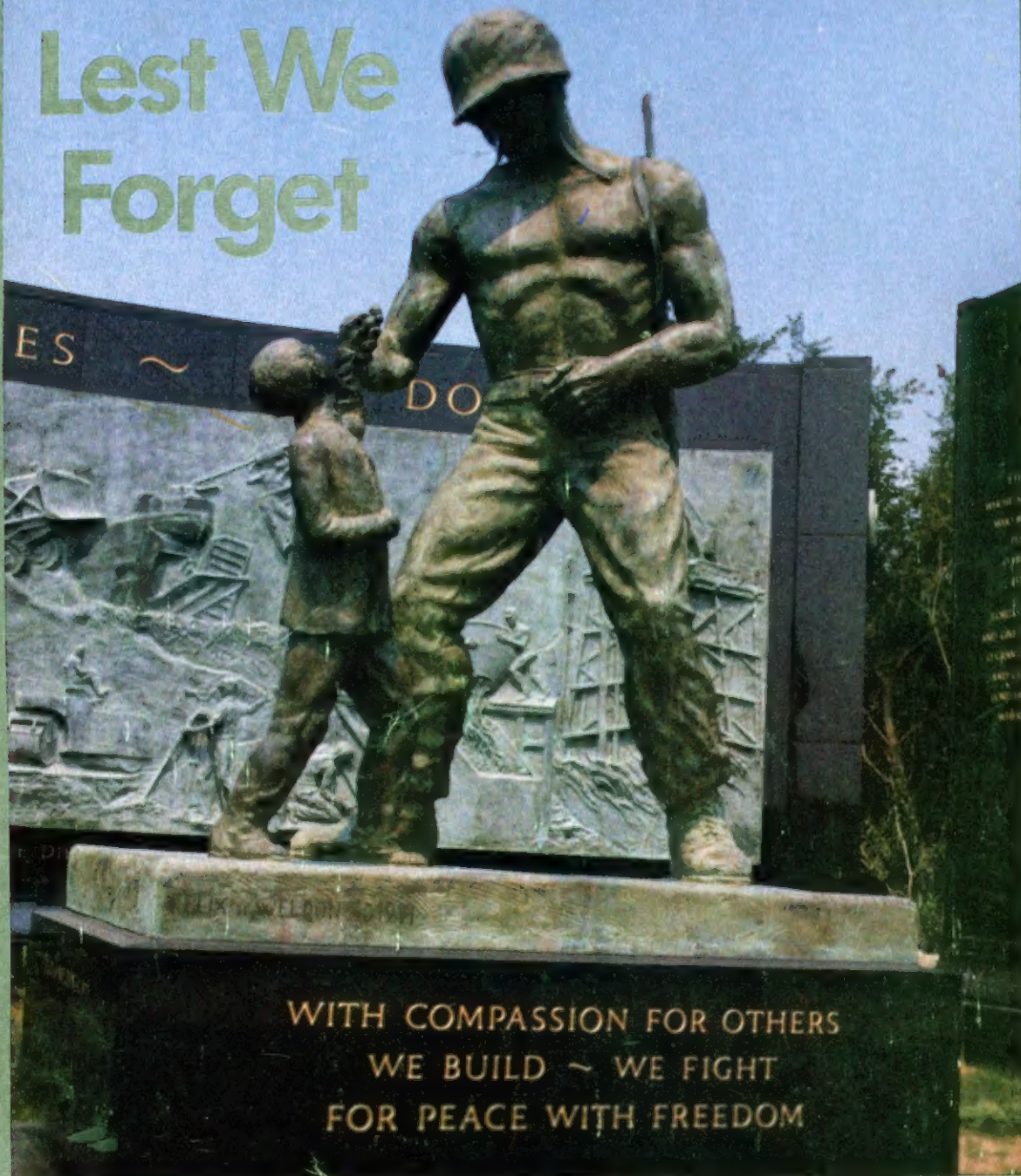
VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

MAGAZINE

MAY • 1984

Lest We Forget



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Cover

The Seabee Memorial at Arlington captures the spirit of these doughty builders and fighters who are remembered by veterans who served with them in all theaters of WWII, the Korean War, in Vietnam and most recently by the Marines in Lebanon. The story of their exploits is told by Charles P. Clarke on page 22. This monument is an appropriate reminder that May is the month of Memorial Day. (Navy Photo.)

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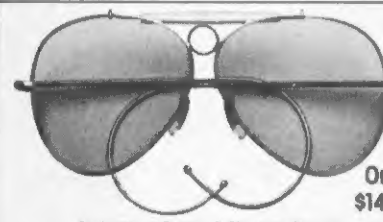
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MAIL CALL

WWI Vet Replies

Roy L. Chace, Jr., a Vietnam veteran, writes that he was not home to see the parades, after the war ended (March). I sympathize with him. When I returned home, seven months after Armistice Day in WWI, it was also too late to see any parades. In fact, when I walked down the street in hobnail shoes, people looked at me curiously, as if I did not belong in this country. So don't feel bad about it, Buddy. It just shows how easily folks forget the veterans, and how soon, too. Now at 89 years old, I am the only living WWI veteran in Post 2083.—Walter L. Brown, 60 Crescent Drive, East Hartford, Conn. 06118.

Liked Weinberger's Remarks

I am a independent trucker, haul rock for construction in the summer and goof off all winter, and love it. My darling wife stacks up reading material all summer, then in the winter I read it all. This explains why I am just now reading the October, 1983, issue of the VFW Magazine. I am writing in reference to "The Best for Americans" that appeared in this issue. I would like to commend Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger for his excellent remarks. It is my firm belief that to run for any top public office a man should be a veteran of overseas service. He should know first hand what war is all about and I don't mean from reading the newspaper, but being part of it, to qualify to have the future of our country in his hands.—Bob Schmoie, 3049 Delaware, Klamath Falls, Ore. 97603.

Shooting Still Important

"Outshooting Means Winning" by Capt. John C. Berger (March) is so true. Too bad the high brass doesn't realize this fact. The AMTUs should be in charge of all infantry weapons instruction. Last year at Ft. Dix I questioned two Combat Infantry Badge wearers, who were in charge of the M-16 training, and both gave incorrect answers regarding rifle training principles.—Charles Davis, President, Twin-S Gun Club, Box 214, R.D. 1, East Greenville, Pa. 18041.



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- TO INSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength.
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.

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LEGISLATIVE

Veterans Administration's Budget: The President's proposed budget for the VA for the fiscal year 1985 states in part: "...if overall veterans' budget costs are to be reduced in future years, a thorough reappraisal of veterans' health care system policy, hospital capacity, and operational methods will be necessary. These issues will be subject to intensive scrutiny by the Administration in preparation for the 1986 budget."

In view of this and to give a true picture of the cost of veterans' programs, the following is quoted from the House Veterans' Affairs Committee Report to the Budget Committee:

Veterans' Benefits and Services
as Part of the Total Federal Budget

Table A "indicates total federal outlays, veterans' benefits and services outlays (function 700), and the percentage for benefits and services for fiscal years 1975 through 1985.

A			
Fiscal Year	Total Federal	Veterans' benefits and services	Veterans' as percent of outlays
1975	\$324,245	\$16,599	5.1
1976	364,473	18,433	5.1
1977	400,506	18,038	4.5
1978	448,368	18,978	4.2
1979	490,997	19,931	4.1
1980	576,675	21,185	3.7
1981	657,204	22,991	3.5
1982	728,375	23,958	3.3
1983	796,969	24,846	3.1
1984 (Est.)	853,760	25,799	3.0
1985 (Est.)	925,492	26,723	2.9

"As the above table indicates, in 1975 the percentage of total federal outlays spent on veterans' benefits and services was 5.1%. Since that time, there has been a steady decrease, with the estimate for fiscal year 1985 at 2.9%.

"From 1950 to the present, the veteran population has increased from approximately 18.5 million to 28.2 million. Two major GI bill programs educated millions of veterans. Twenty-one major veteran health care measures were approved by Congress and 19 hospitals were added to the VA hospital system. Yet, federal outlays for veterans' benefits and services have increased only by a ratio of 3 compared to 332 for Social Security and Medicare; 123 for health; 116 for education, training, employment and social services; and 28 for income security."

B	Education, training, Emplym't & social services	Health	Social Security and Medi-care	Income security	Veterans' benefits and services
Fiscal Year					
1950	241	268	783	4,129	8,834
1955	445	291	4,436	5,128	4,676
1960	968	796	11,633	7,376	5,441
1965	2,146	1,791	17,456	9,659	5,723
1970	8,634	5,907	36,487	15,645	8,679
1975	15,882	12,870	77,532	50,160	16,599
1980	30,795	23,148	150,648	86,411	21,185
1985 (Est.)	27,893	32,916	260,321	114,380	26,723
Ratio of Increase	116	123	332	28	3

Table B "indicates federal outlays for human resources programs for selected years from 1950-85:

"Federal spending for health and medicare programs is expected to total almost \$102,599 million in 1985. This total has been broken down by the Office of Management and Budget into several categories."

Table C "indicates the total federal outlays for health and for veterans' hospital and medical care, and the percentage attributable to the Veterans' Administration (1975-1985). It is interesting to note the steady decline of federal outlays attributed to veterans' health care since fiscal year 1974."

C			Outlays for Veterans' hospital and medical care	Total	Veterans as percent of total
Fiscal Year	Outlays for health	Outlays for medicare			
1975	\$12,870	\$12,874	\$3,665	\$29,409	12.6
1976	15,677	15,834	4,046	35,557	11.4
1977	17,246	19,345	4,708	41,299	11.4
1978	18,485	22,768	5,254	46,507	11.3
1979	20,477	26,495	5,611	52,583	10.7
1980	23,148	32,089	6,515	61,752	10.6
1981	26,858	39,149	6,965	72,972	9.5
1982	27,435	46,567	7,517	81,519	9.2
1983	28,655	52,588	8,272	89,515	9.2
1984 (Est.)	30,665	61,064	8,972	100,701	8.9
1985 (Est.)	32,916	69,683	9,597	112,196	8.6

* * *

Recent Testimonies: Before the appropriate subcommittee of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, VFW testified in opposition to a Grace Commission recommendation to alter the VA's current Home Loan Guaranty foreclosure proceedings which would require the VA in future foreclosure proceedings to pay off the guaranteed portion of the loan allowing the lender to take possession of the dwelling—a move the VFW believes would adversely affect potential first-time buyers and force lenders to tighten eligibility requirements for veterans. The VFW testified in support of legislation providing for new and broader access to treatment for those who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. The bill mainly addresses inpatient treatment units at VA medical care facilities and outlines a number of services to be provided. VFW cautioned that the necessary personnel, training and funding must be committed to such an effort in order to make it successful. With respect to the Emergency

Veterans' Job Training Act of 1983, VFW supported funding for the fiscal year 1985 omitted from the President's budget request to Congress.

Compensation Cola: Compensation and DIC received this month by beneficiaries reflected a 3.5% increase as authorized by Public Law 98-223. The President's proposed budget for the fiscal year 1985 makes provision for a 4.3% cost-of-living increase effective April 1, 1985, to be reflected in May's checks. Both Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees in their reports to their Budget Committees have requested funding to change the next compensation COLA date from April 1, 1985 to Dec. 1, 1984. In addition, the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee requested funding to pay this COLA at the rate of 4.7% rather than 4.3% based on estimates furnished by the Congressional Budget Office.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Congress Studying Bill to Aid Central America: Currently before Congress is the Central American Democracy, Peace and Development Initiative Act of 1984, based on the Kissinger Commission's proposal for a comprehensive approach to overcome region's past and present social, economic, political and military problems. It would provide aid and support for housing, medical care, education, labor movements and agricultural and land reform. An \$8 billion aid package would stimulate growth spread over five years—\$5.9 billion in direct aid and \$2 billion in insurance and loan guarantees. Defeating the guerrillas in El Salvador is key to stabilizing Central America militarily, so \$178.7 million earmarked this year for El Salvador. The bill proposes \$3 for social, economic and political development for every \$1 of military aid. An additional \$203.7 million is budgeted over two-year period for rest of Central America. Progress in overcoming social, economic and military problems has to

be matched by political development. Legislation provides for aid for legal reform, requires semi-annual reporting on human rights and proposes creation of the Central American Development Organization (CADO). Each Central American country and U.S. would be represented. A fourth of U.S. economic aid would be channeled through CADO to exert leverage toward progress and cooperation.

POW/MIA: Ann Mills Griffiths, executive director of the National League of Families, briefed VFW on negotiations with Hanoi over POW/MIAs during Mid-Winter Conference. Miss Griffiths said the Vietnamese agreed to speed up efforts on the accounting and initial efforts will focus on cases most easily accessible. In addition, new information was provided on several missing Americans and technical level meetings will resume, she said.

SERVICE

NSLI CAPPED FOR VETS OVER 70: VA Administrator Harry N. Walters announced capping of NSLI premium rates for "V" term policyholders at the age 70 rate of \$6.18 per month per \$1,000. Nearly 50,000 policyholders who have renewed their policies at age 71 or higher will have their premiums rolled back on Sept. 1 to the age 70 rate. Purpose is to provide financial relief for elderly term policyholders.

VA RESPONSES TO RESOLUTIONS: Through Resolution 619, the VFW sought mortgage life insurance for service connected veterans. VA's reaction is that it has not been asked to take a position on a proposal of this type in this Congress. On Resolution 620

to expand VA Administrator's authority to aid veterans threatened by defaulting on home loans because of unemployment, the VA commented it provides many services already to aid the veteran-borrower, but the Administration opposes a section of HR 2948 which would authorize the VA to aid veterans to avoid home loan foreclosures. Resolution 622 advocates a peacetime educational GI Bill funded other than by VA appropriation for veterans only for education. Defense Department reaction is that such a measure is not now needed for enlistment or retention of personnel, but if one is adopted the department, not the VA, should fund it. VA said Administration opinion is that any new education program is unwarranted at this time and the VA agrees.

Veterans' Needs Paramount



**By Clifford G. Olson, Jr.
VFW Commander-in-Chief**

Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., presented VFW legislative recommendations to the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees on March 6. With minor differences, noted in the text, his remarks are reproduced here. He was introduced to the House Committee by Rep. Brian J. Donnelly (Mass.) and to the Senate Committee by Sen. Edward F. Kennedy (Mass.).

Mr. Chairman, permit me to express the appreciation of the VFW for legislation developed within this Committee and shepherded through the House of Representatives and Senate fulfilling many of our current VFW resolutions and priority goals.

I refer to the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act, Public Law 98-77, to provide job training for Korean and Vietnam Era veterans. Also, the Veterans' Health Care Amendments of 1983, Public Law 98-160, which among other provisions, extends the outreach centers for Vietnam veterans another four years, increases per diem rates for veterans in state facilities and, by law, established within the Veterans Administration an Advisory Committee on Women Veterans.

The President recently signed into law the Veterans' Compensation and Program Improvements Amendments of 1984, which grants a 3.5% increase in compensation and DIC effective April 1, increases the Board of Veterans Appeals from 50 to 65 members and extends until 1989 the Matching Fund Grant Program for state veterans' cemeteries.

Mr. Chairman, I have requested the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee to

take timely action with respect to the House-passed Veterans' Housing Benefits Amendments of 1983, which would grant relief to veterans in jeopardy of losing their homes through foreclosures and, too, the Agent Orange and Atomic Veterans' Relief Act, an interim measure to benefit those suffering the effects of such exposure.

Mr. Chairman, [Sen. Alan K. Simpson (Wyo.)] the VFW is pleased that S. 1651, the Veterans' Dioxin and Radiation Exposure Compensation Standards Act, will be considered by the Senate not later than May 24. As you know, on Jan. 30 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1961, the Agent Orange and Atomic Veterans' Relief Act, an interim measure which would terminate one year after the Agent Orange study being conducted by the Centers for Disease Control is submitted to the Congress, some four or five years hence. The VFW would like to see both the lingering herbicide and radiation exposure problems resolved at the earliest possible date. (Senate presentation only.)

Permit me to call to the Committee's attention, Mr. Chairman, the fine working relationship and rapport existing between the House Committee's highly professional staff and, in particular, Mack G. Fleming, your Chief Counsel and Staff Director; Frank Stover, your Deputy Chief Counsel; and Rufus Wilson, Minority Counsel and Staff Director, and the Senate Committee's highly professional staff and, in particular your former Chief Counsel and Staff Director, Thomas E. Harvey, and his successor, Anthony J. Principi; Jonathan R. Steinberg, the Minority Chief Counsel, and Edward P. Scott, the Minority General Counsel, with the Executive Director of our Washington Office, Cooper T. Holt, and our National Legislative Director, Donald H. Schwab and their staffs.

Mr. Chairman, (Sen. Simpson) one of the original members of this Committee has announced that he will not seek reelection in November. The Honorable Jennings Randolph will be missed, indeed. First elected to Congress in 1932 when the 32nd President, Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected, the senior Senator from West Virginia has always been a staunch supporter of veterans' programs. The VFW wishes you well in retirement, Sen. Randolph, and we thank you for your dedicated service to our great nation spanning more than five decades. (Senate presentation only.)

I would be remiss, indeed, if I failed to publicly thank the Chairman of Subcommittee on Hospitals and Health Care, the Honorable Bob Edgar, for having introduced a bill incorporated in other legislation which became Public Law 98-190, honoring our three-time Commander-in-Chief, Jimmie Van Zandt, by naming the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Altoona, Pa., the James E. Van Zandt Veterans Administration Medical Center. (House presentation only.)

Mr. Chairman, my purpose for appearing today is to present our priority legislative program for this Second Session of the 98th Congress. Appended to my testimony is a copy of our VFW pamphlet entitled, "Legislative and Security Priority Goals for 1984." Without objection, it is requested this pamphlet be made a part of the hearing record.

As always, Mr. Chairman, our first priority goals address the Veterans Administration budget and health care furnished our nation's veterans.

Mr. Chairman, the budget proposed by the President for the Veterans Administration in the fiscal year 1985 at \$27.2 billion in budget authority is an increase of \$992.9 million over the cur-

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rent year and the \$26.6 billion in outlays represents an addition of \$922.8 million above the fiscal year 1984. Average employment within the agency is up more than 2,000, medical care is up more than half a billion dollars, research is up \$20 million, construction is up \$291 million, grants to state homes are up \$17 million and provisions are made for a 4.3% cost-of-living increase in compensation and a 15% increase for veterans availing themselves of educational benefits. It is a good budget considering present financial constraints and the VFW supports its implementation. Having said this, let me also state certain areas that cause us varying degrees of concern.

The medical care budget, although an increase of \$531.7 million in outlays, represents another decremental budget since it does not reflect the inflation in medical care. Therefore, the demand for care by eligible veterans already exceeds the ability of the Veterans Administration to provide needed care by all who are eligible and seek care. As a result, some veterans in the lowest priority, those with non-service connected disabilities, are forced to seek care in community hospitals as welfare patients. These veterans are increasingly encountering great difficulty in securing care under the financially strained Medicaid system and often go without care until their disabilities become irreversible. We urge that Congress ensure that all eligible veterans, especially those with limited financial resources and no health insurance, needing medical care, not be denied.

During our 84th National Convention at New Orleans, La., last August, President Reagan signed into law with great fanfare and national television coverage the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act of 1983. This jobs' program to benefit Korean and Vietnam Era veterans was to be funded in the amount of \$150 million in each of the fiscal years 1984 and 1985. Initial funding was made available last December, but \$20 million was immediately transferred to provide educational benefits for veterans and the \$150 million was not requested in the 1985 budget.

The Veterans Administration believes that the \$130 million now available will be sufficient to meet the objects established for this program in both the fiscal years 1984 and 1985. In recent testimony, the VA stated that

there has been a surge of interest in the program and that already 43,000 applications for participation have been approved.

In fairness, the Administrator did state additional funding would be requested if needed. In my opinion, the Administration has erred badly in not providing these funds and has sent the wrong signal to veterans in renegeing on this commitment. I would strongly suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that it would behoove the Administration to reconsider funding for this program.

The scheduled reduction of 800 personnel in the Department of Veterans Benefits, which will be a cumulative decrease of 6,654 since 1976, appears unreasonable. Although activity in the educational programs has diminished as have active caseloads in compensation and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and pension, processing time in claims is unreasonable.

Presently, original claims for compensation are taking 121 days to resolve; those for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, 62 days; for disability pension, 83 days and death pension claims, 53 days. Furthermore, it is my understanding that over half of the reduction of 800 personnel will be sustained by the compensation and pension service. The Administrator has stated a contract will be made with a consulting firm to establish the personnel needs within the Department of Veterans Benefits. We welcome such a study, indeed, provided the firm chosen adheres to its mandate and not ignore it as did the National Academy of Sciences several years ago when directed to ascertain personnel requirements within the Department of Medicine and Surgery.

Mr. Chairman, the VFW opposes in the strongest possible terms the Administration's proposal to terminate property acquisitions by the Veterans Administration following foreclosures on home loans guaranteed by the VA, which is one of the recommendations of the President's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control. It is the opinion of many, not only the Mortgage Bankers Association, that implementation of this proposal will toll the death knell for the VA home loan program which would be a cruel disservice to veterans, especially Vietnam veterans.

The construction budget of \$822 million will provide for the replacement or modernization of five medical centers, seven new nursing home care units, a

domiciliary renovation, and outpatient improvements at seven locations among other upgrading projects. These new facilities, coupled with a \$17 million increase in grants to state homes, reflect appropriate concern for our aging veteran population. However, Mr. Chairman, we are perplexed with the system used in establishing construction priorities we believed would be fine tuned by the Medical District Initiated Planning program (MEDIPP).

The proposed budget contains no funding for the replacement medical center in the Baltimore metropolitan area listed in the current Five-Year Medical Facility Construction Plan as one of the 10 medical centers most in need of construction, replacement or major modernization.

Eight million dollars has already been expended for this project, \$3.5 million for working drawings and \$4.5 million for purchase of the construction site. Also, \$1 million has already been spent in Philadelphia, Pa., for major expansion and improvement of the VA medical center but no funding is included although scheduled for 1985 in the Five-Year Plan. Adding to our dismay, the City of Philadelphia has donated 12 acres of land for this construction provided construction commences by December, 1986. I fail to understand how \$9 million and the gift of 12 acres of valuable land can be so frittered away.

Mr. Chairman, the proposed budget for the Veterans Administration is not all that we would like, but we realize that in an era of unprecedented deficits, compromises must be made to protect the basic integrity of the VA hospital and medical care system, the compensation, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and pension programs. The VFW also realizes the budget is as good as it is only because in the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, Harry N. Walters, we have a real champion of veterans, truly a veteran's advocate. To quote Mr. Walters — "America is #1 — Thanks to Our Veterans."

Mr. Chairman, over the years with the able assistance of this Committee, we have been able to turn back attacks against the Veterans Administration, its hospital and medical care system and veterans' benefits in general. These attacks have emanated from the 20th Century Fund, the National Tax Limitation Committee, the Heritage Foundation, the National Academy of Sciences

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Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (Mass.) introduces Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

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ces, the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional Budget Office, the news media and more recently, the President's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control known to most as the "Grace Commission."

You will recall that the commission's original draft report last year recommended abolishing the Veterans Administration and reassigning its functions to other government agencies. The draft report was immediately repudiated by the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, withdrawn and rewritten by the Grace Commission. Then, last month in testimony before the Senate Budget Committee Director of the Office of Management and Budget David Stockman stated in part:

"While major strides in budget con-

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Rep. Brian J. Donnelly (Mass.), right, introduces Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., to the House Veterans Affairs Committee.



Sen. Strom Thurmond (S.C.) praises Commander-in-Chief Olson's presentation to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

Chairman Alan K. Simpson (Wyo.), of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, welcomes Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr. Right is Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (Mass.).



Westmoreland Tells VFW of Suit Against CBS

Recalling that the 1982 VFW National Convention voted to support him in his libel suit against the Columbia Broadcasting System, Gen. William C. Westmoreland declared at the General Session of the Mid-Winter Conference on March 5:

"I'm an old soldier who refuses to fade away. Just ask CBS."

The resolution he referred to, Number 441, expressed the VFW's "disappointment at the mistreatment of General Westmoreland by CBS and Mike Wallace" and asked that CBS corporate officers apologize to him.

Commander of American forces in Vietnam during the years of some of the heaviest fighting and later Army chief of staff, General Westmoreland is currently suing CBS for libel as an outgrowth of CBS's documentary "The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception."

He charges the CBS program associated him with a conspiracy to suppress and alter information about enemy strength while he was commanding in Vietnam.

It was announced that tax-deductible contributions for him to pay legal fees may be sent to Capital Legal Foundation, 700 E Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. Donors are being asked to indicate VFW and their unit on the face of their checks.

In his suit, Westmoreland is seeking damages for injury he contends he

suffered as a result of charges made in the program which he argues were "false and malicious."

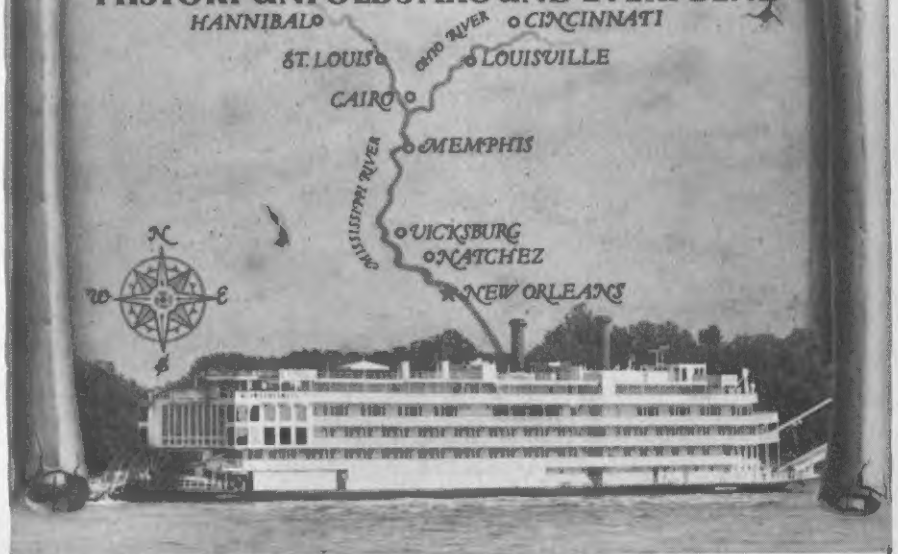
The suit alleges that CBS through a series of what are described as "distortions, rehearsals, testimony and convenient editing" accused the general of "knowingly conspiring to falsify information on enemy troop strength in

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Gen. William C. Westmoreland met VFW leaders at the General Session, March 5. With him on the podium are Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum and Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.



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511 Main Street, Box VW59
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202



After being introduced at the General Session, Gen. William C. Westmoreland acknowledges the cheers of the 3,000 who attended.

'My Role in Upholding the Constitution'

By Kristen M. Kuntz

Kristen M. Kuntz, 17, an Ocala, Fla., high school senior, was winner of the first prize, a \$14,000 college scholarship, in the 1984 Voice of Democracy contest. The other winners were Ted A. Smith, 15, a Springfield, Mo., high school sophomore, second place, \$7,000; David P. Eich, 17, an Appleton, Wis., high school senior, third place; Tanya P. Durrell, 16, an Evansville, Ind., high school sophomore, fourth place, \$3,500; and Steve S. Fetsch, 17, a senior at a Pendleton, Ore., high school. Their scholarships are named for the late Commander-in-Chief T.C. Selman. Winner of the \$1,000 Tallman Scholarship was Brian H. Phipps, 17, a senior at an Elkhorn, Neb., high school. Following is the text of Kristen's winning script on "My Role in Upholding the Constitution," the 1983-1984 topic on which they and some 250,000 other contestants wrote.

Force during World War II, and people cheered wherever we went. Today, my children can't attend the big university in the town where we live. Whatever happened to those rights we were granted?

We still have a long way to go.

July 4, 1909. I am a hard-working woman. I work 12 hours a day, six days a week, in a sweat shop. Most of the people who work here in the garment industry are women. The men — my supervisors — laugh when

Kristen Kuntz, first place Voice of Democracy winner, who read her essay at the annual Congressional Dinner.



Mrs. Harriet Timmons, VFW Ladies Auxiliary President, and Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., flank the six winners of Voice of Democracy scholarships. In the center is Kristen Kuntz, first place winner.



Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., and Ladies Auxiliary President Harriet Timmons help Kristen Kuntz hold her simulated \$14,000 check for her first place Voice of Democracy broadcast script.

I say, "One day, my hard work in this country will pay off. I'm going to vote and be as successful as any of you are!"

Amendment 19 granted women the right to vote on Aug. 26, 1920. . . but it is not over yet.

It is now 1983. I am a news anchor-woman for a large television network, fired because, according to the men in charge, I'm not young and pretty enough. But Walter Cronkite wasn't young and pretty, either. My lawyer says I will have to go to court for recognition of my civil rights.

We still have a long way to go.

It is 1943. I am an 18-year-old fighting the Japanese on the small island of

continued on page 45

The year is 1807. I am an 18-year-old infant, the Constitution of the United States of America. Like any infant, I have a lot of growing to do. I already have 12 more amendments than I had at birth! How big and strong I finally become depends on future generations of Americans, and how strong they become depends on me. I represent the hopes, the dreams, and the hard work of thousands of people. . . and it is not over yet. We still have a long way to go. . .

It is now 1847. I am a young black slave, a small boy put in the fields to work with the other slaves. I haven't seen my family for months, now—they were moved to a different plantation. But as I work, I remember what my mother used to say: "Son, I have faith in the good Lord above. We are gonna be free people one day."

Amendment 13 abolished slavery on Dec. 18, 1865. By 1870, Amendments 13 and 14 had granted the former slaves citizenship and the right to vote. . . but it is not over yet.

It is the year 1946. I am a black custodian, barely able to feed my family. I was a lieutenant in the Air

Scholarship Winners Savor Varied Fruits of Capital's Bounty



All 52 state winners gather on the steps of the Capitol for this traditional photograph.

From Friday, March 2, when the 52 state winners in the Voice of Democracy competition met for the first time at the Sheraton National Hotel to the good-byes on the following Wednesday, the 27 girls and 25 boys enjoyed a richly-varied smorgasbord of Washington, D.C.'s many attractions.

The winners started their slate of activities on Friday evening with a special screening at the Motion Picture Association of America, followed by a social hour where they got to know each other better.

Saturday was a busy day indeed. In the morning, they boarded busses for a tour of George Washington's home, Mt. Vernon. The afternoon provided them the opportunity to tour the Smithsonian Museums on the Washington Mall.

Sunday's activities were equally exciting. The morning was highlighted with a visit to the Washington Cathedral and a tour of national monuments. In the afternoon, they traveled to Arlington National Cemetery where they placed a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

Sunday night must certainly be termed the highlight of the activities.

At the Sheraton Washington, the winners and their State Commanders learned the name of the first-place winner and recipient of the \$14,000 scholarship, Kristen Kuntz from Florida.

Monday morning, Ms. Kuntz' day began early with an appearance on Good Morning, America. Later she caught up with her fellow winners and their chaperones for a tour of Capitol Hill and a visit to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the National Archives.

Tuesday's activities were no less hectic. A visit to the White House in the morning was followed by a trip to Baltimore for a tour of the Inner Harbor. After returning to Washington, the winners were feted at a reception at the Sheraton Washington prior to the VFW Congressional Banquet where the six national winners were presented their awards.

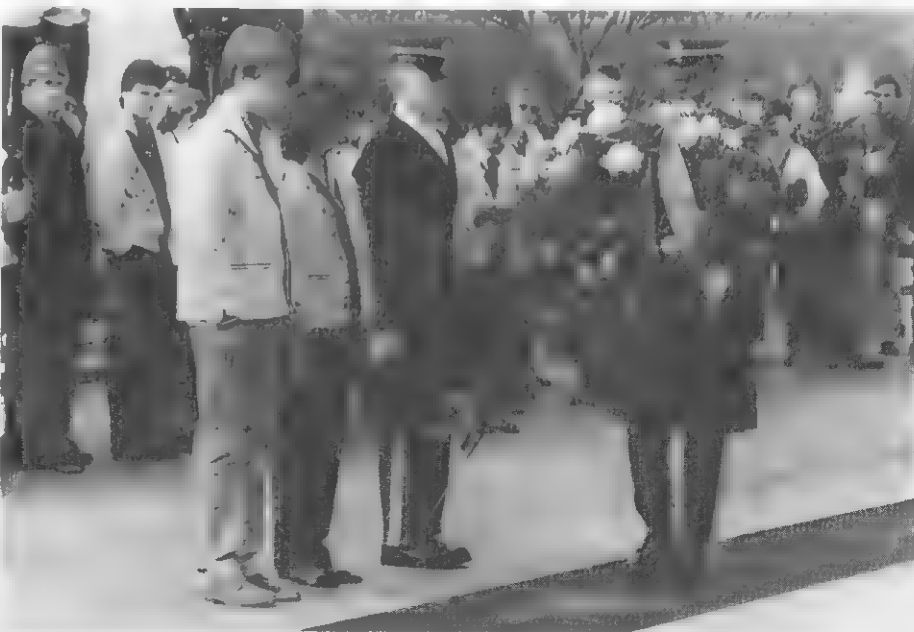
Judges for the national finals were Past Commanders-in-Chief Joseph A. Scerra and Joseph Lombardo, a New York Supreme Court judge; Harriet Blue, National 4-H Council; David Delgado, National Association of Secondary School Principals; Rae Evans, Hallmark Cards, Inc.; David H. Fiske, CBS, Inc.; Edward O. Fritts, National Asso-



Kristen Kuntz, first place scholarship winner, is fitted with a mike prior to her appearance on ABC's Good Morning, America.

ciation of Broadcasters; Rep. Elwood H. Hillis (Ind.); Peter B. Kenney, telecommunications consultant; Stephen J. McCormick, Broadcast Productions and Services, Inc.; Dan McCurry, editor, Stars and Stripes, Washington, D.C.; Paul Myer, American Broadcasting Co.; Thomas O'Brien, Mutual Broadcasting System, Inc.; James H. Quello, Federal Communications Commission; Larry Taishoff, Broadcasting Magazine; Rep. Robert S. Walker (Pa.) and Nicholas Zapple, retired Commerce Committee Staff.

VFW



At Arlington National Cemetery, two representatives from the group of winners lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

VFW Goals Praised

Shortly before Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., presented VFW legislative recommendations to the House Veterans Affairs Committee, he met with committee members who praised VFW objectives.



Olson with his Congressman, Rep. Brian J. Donnelly (Mass.), prior to Olson's testimony before the House Veterans Affairs Committee.



Rep. Michael Billrakis (Fla.) and Olson.



Rep. Wayne Dowdy (Miss.) chats with Olson.



Rep. Daniel A. Mica (Fla.) poses with Olson.



Rep. Marcy Kaptur (Ohio) meets Olson.



Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt (Ark.), HVAC ranking minority member and recipient of this year's VFW Congressional Award, and Olson.



Rep. Nancy L. Johnson (Conn.) and Olson.



Rep. Douglas Applegate (Ohio) and Olson.



Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery (Miss.), HVAC chairman, poses with Olson.

March (Parenthetical number indicates times Commander has won this honor)



DIV I
George D. Miller (7)
Ohio



DIV II
Edward Hardesty
Indiana



DIV III
Lester Davis (4)
Florida



DIV IV
Claude (Jack) Ragan
North Carolina



DIV V
Otis N. Berry (3)
Virginia

posts of 1,000 members or more

Recorded as of Feb. 27, 1984

Place	Post No.	Location	1984 Membership
1	1114	Evansville, Ind.	4,013
2	3579	Park Ridge, Ill.	2,790
3	628	Sioux Falls, S.D.	2,547
4	1146	Saint Clair Shores, Mich.	2,375
5	1308	Alton, Ill.	2,352
6	5555	Richfield, Minn.	2,307
7	47	Uniontown, Pa.	2,253
8	1064	Huntington, W. Va.	2,200
9	49	Mobile, Ala.	2,179
10	360	Mishawaka, Ind.	2,124

11	131	Lincoln, Neb.	2,077
12	1273	Rapid City, S.D.	2,076
13	1296	Bloomington, Minn.	1,987
14	3382	Kingsport, Tenn.	1,942
15	401	Albuquerque, N.M.	1,936
16	2290	Manville, N.J.	1,929
17	6704	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	1,903
18	2539	Gulfport, Miss.	1,898
19	6506	Rosedale, Md.	1,827
20	249	Butler, Pa.	1,816
21	6640	Metairie, La.	1,788
22	283	Kingston, Pa.	1,783
23	2100	Everett, Wash.	1,717
24	969	Tacoma, Wash.	1,712
25	6975	Bristol, Va.	1,691
26	379	Yakima, Wash.	1,651



DIV VI
James E. Baker, Sr. (2)
Mississippi



DIV VII
Henry S. Allen, Sr.
South Carolina



DIV VIII
Elmo J. Whitmore (3)
New Mexico



DIV IX
Gene Corbin (7)
Alaska



DIV X
William E. Gray Jr. (6)
District of Columbia

order of parade

Standings are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters through March 31, 1984.

NATIONAL AVERAGE 98.65%

1	Alaska	109.88	13	Iowa	100.18	34	Louisiana	97.75
2	South Carolina	102.97	14	Georgia	100.07	35	Montana	97.59
3	Florida	102.78	15	New Hampshire	100.02	36	Kentucky	97.33
4	Utah	102.63	16	Vermont	99.74	37	Massachusetts	97.25
5	Ohio	101.71	17	Missouri	99.71	38	Kansas	97.22
6	New Mexico	101.51	18	South Dakota	99.6348	39	New York	97.08
7	Virginia	101.25	19	Washington	99.6325	40	Illinois	97.05
8	North Dakota	101.21	20	Maryland	99.51	41	Alabama	96.87
9	Mississippi	101.00	21	Idaho	99.34	42	Maine	96.76
10	North Carolina	100.56	22	Arkansas	99.26	43	West Virginia	96.54
11	Rhode Island	100.28	23	Minnesota	99.23	44	Texas	96.32
12	Arizona	100.27	24	Wisconsin	99.17	45	Tennessee	95.72
			25	Nevada	99.04	46	District of Columbia	95.42
			26	Nebraska	99.01	47	Oklahoma	95.26
			27	Colorado	98.99	48	Pacific Area	93.98
			28	Connecticut	98.93	49	Delaware	93.89
			29	Pennsylvania	98.85	50	Wyoming	93.47
			30	Michigan	98.84	51	Hawaii	91.76
			31	New Jersey	98.70	52	Idaho	91.18
			32	California	98.27	53	Panama Canal	87.55
			33	Oregon	97.82	Last	Germany	79.76

more Posts of 1,000

Post Place No.	Location	1984 Membership
27 1275	Lima, Ohio	1,647
28 5263	Fort Sill, Okla.	1,644
29 7987	New Port Richey, Fla.	1,604
29 1003	Jefferson City, Mo.	1,604
31 4372	Odessa, Texas	1,603
32 367	Joliet, Ill.	1,586
33 3851	Carmi, Ill.	1,577
34 1989	Indiana, Pa.	1,542
35 501	Denver, Colo.	1,540
36 573	Clarksburg, W.Va.	1,535
37 1599	Chambersburg, Pa.	1,526
38 1621	Janesville, Wis.	1,520
39 9619	Morningside, Md.	1,507
40 2704	South Omaha, Neb.	1,490
41 53	Jamestown, N.Y.	1,489
42 5632	Saint Louis Park, Minn.	1,488
43 2754	West View, Pa.	1,478
44 1079	Elyria, Ohio	1,473
45 549	Tucson, Ariz.	1,466
45 4903	Tucson, Ariz.	1,466
47 8541	San Antonio, Texas	1,464
48 1736	Alexandria, La.	1,454
49 7330	Oakville, Conn.	1,453
50 112	Wichita, Kans.	1,447
50 641	Columbia, S.C.	1,447
52 2503	Omaha, Neb.	1,445
53 1650	Topeka, Kans.	1,442
54 1000	Independence, Mo.	1,425
55 9191	Killeen, Texas	1,400
56 23	Lebanon, Pa.	1,398
57 4087	Davison, Mich.	1,390
58 6896	Detroit, Mich.	1,386
59 2529	Sandusky, Ohio	1,384
60 3892	Harker Heights, Texas	1,381
61 891	Asheville, N.C.	1,380
62 1432	Salina, Kans.	1,370
63 447	Albert Lea, Minn.	1,367
64 733	Mason City, Iowa	1,364
65 296	South Saint Paul, Minn.	1,360
66 1865	Kenosha, Wis.	1,355
67 832	South Portland, Maine	1,352
68 1857	Oklahoma City, Okla.	1,345
69 2130	Lake Charles, La.	1,339
70 1	Denver, Colo.	1,337
71 589	Hazleton, Pa.	1,332
72 9400	Sunnyslope, Ariz.	1,328
72 7119	Indianapolis, Ind.	1,328
74 6251	Cheektowaga, N.Y.	1,324
75 5225	West Memphis, Ark.	1,320
75 2199	Joliet, Ill.	1,320
77 2012	Abilene, Texas	1,319
78 4057	Tupelo, Miss.	1,316
79 1810	Brentwood, Pa.	1,315
80 1216	Austin, Minn.	1,307
81 3777	Festus, Mo.	1,301
82 6796	Dallas, Texas	1,298
83 762	Fargo, N.D.	1,289
84 3838	Cape Girardeau, Mo.	1,281
85 2346	Saugus, Mass.	1,278
86 972	Terre Haute, Ind.	1,274
87 6874	Lemon Grove, Calif.	1,271
88 3962	Corinth, Miss.	1,265
89 5206	Hendersonville, N.C.	1,248
90 577	Tulsa, Okla.	1,245
91 1435	Spokane, Wash.	1,242
92 2940	West Seneca, N.Y.	1,226
93 3160	Norfolk, Va.	1,222
94 428	Saint Cloud, Minn.	1,221
95 7175	Millington, Tenn.	1,210
96 3790	Logansport, Ind.	1,203
97 1120	Indianapolis, Ind.	1,200
98 6712	Revere, Mass.	1,195
99 1201	Ponca City, Okla.	1,191
100 2093	Orlando, Fla.	1,190
101 1639	Willmar, Minn.	1,187
102 1863	Solon, Ohio	1,176
103 2640	Wallington, N.J.	1,166
104 6240	Russell, Kans.	1,163
105 4488	Grenada, Miss.	1,162
106 1590	Daytona Beach, Fla.	1,161
107 1475	Amarillo, Texas	1,159
108 4051	Colorado Springs, Colo.	1,152
109 2702	Huntsville, Ala.	1,142
110 305	Eau Claire, Wis.	1,140
111 1271	Central Falls, R.I.	1,136
112 1474	Spokane, Wash.	1,135
113 137	Duluth, Minn.	1,132
113 1115	Hillsville, Va.	1,132
115 1411	Cumberland, Md.	1,131
115 3376	Ephrata, Pa.	1,131
117 425	Hopkins, Minn.	1,125
118 1536	Sayre, Pa.	1,107
119 4848	Chattanooga, Tenn.	1,105
119 1087	Great Falls, Mont.	1,105
121 9186	San Antonio, Texas	1,104
122 8790	Houston, Texas	1,101
123 1944	Puente, Calif.	1,093
124 3074	Lexington, N.C.	1,092
125 191	Canonsburg, Pa.	1,091
126 1990	Greeneville, Tenn.	1,090
127 7686	Alamogordo, N.M.	1,077
128 8919	El Paso, Texas	1,068
129 155	Johnstown, Pa.	1,062
129 2496	Alpena, Mich.	1,062
131 9223	Arlington, Calif.	1,058
132 788	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	1,055
133 658	Macon, Ga.	1,054
134 4256	Madeira Beach, Fla.	1,053
135 5266	Morristown, Tenn.	1,052
136 7069	Clarks Summit, Pa.	1,045
137 495	Columbus, Ohio	1,042
137 943	Ashtabula, Ohio	1,042
139 1693	New Albany, Ind.	1,040
140 1383	Klamath Falls, Ore.	1,037
141 2867	Garfield, N.J.	1,035
141 3368	Mount Pleasant, Pa.	1,035
141 1720	Grand Rapids, Minn.	1,035
144 382	El Reno, Okla.	1,030
145 5108	Marietta, Ohio	1,027
146 6800	Somerville, Mass.	1,023
146 950	Mankato, Minn.	1,023
146 905	Gardner, Mass.	1,023
149 167	Charleroi, Pa.	1,022
150 99	Decatur, Ill.	1,016
151 9969	Del City, Okla.	1,012
152 145	Bridgeport, Conn.	1,011
153 639	Malden, Mass.	1,008
154 1936	Hagerstown, Md.	1,007
155 4075	Frankfort, Ky.	1,006
156 6827	Saint Petersburg, Fla.	1,005
156 5064	McMinnville, Tenn.	1,005
158 3373	Pascagoula, Miss.	1,004
158 668	Birmingham, Ala.	1,004
160 1848	Jackson, Tenn.	1,002
160 737	Council Bluffs, Iowa	1,002
162 1754	Huntingdon, Pa.	1,001
162 3553	Chester, Ill.	1,001

national
aides-de-camp

The following VFW members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of March, 1984. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.

Johnnie H. Hoskins, Post 549, Tucson, Ariz.; Richard Nickels, Post 3579, Park Ridge, Ill.; William Robert Reed, Post 209, Missoula, Mont.; Dr. Samanto Quain, Post 1698, Franklin, N.H.; William R. Seddon, Post 3620, Gloucester, City, N.J.; John E. Bentley, Post 9969, Del City, Okla.; and Joseph G. Hannon, Post 283, Kingston, Pa.

Joseph D. Doherty, Post 7253, Derby, Kans.; Charles A. Kreatchman, Post 7472, Ellicott City, Md.; Vedice W. Romond, Post 7410, Bellmawr, N.J.; Jeff Perrin, Post 3343, Clyde, Ohio; William C. Hutchins, Post 3433, Ladson, S.C.

William A. Harper, Post 3513, Scottsdale, Ariz.; George Lindeboom, Post 2655, Nevada City, Calif.; Harry G. Adams, Post 10477, Lakeland, Fla.; Merlin G. Stephens, Post 1432, Salina, Kans.; Francis E. Helgeson, Post 1562, Faribault, Minn.; Michael H. Wysong, Post 9503, Bayville, N.J.; Carl G. Washburn, Post 8850, Ironton, Ohio; Andrew M. Sabocsik, Post 287, Gatesville, Pa.; John L. Biles, Post 1820, Temple, Texas; and Merlin L. Sorenson, Post 4376, Seven Points, Texas.

Jack Ivy, Post 2702, Huntsville, Ala.; Kenneth A. Buckley, Post 9400, Sunnyslope, Ariz.; Dr. S.A. Kopp, Post 3255, El Centro, Calif.; William F. Brady, Sr., Post 1590, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Stephen Anderson, Post 2801, Villa Park, Ill.; Ernie L. Fulcher, Post 5480, Madisonville, Ky.; and O.D. Travis, Post 1957, Hickory, N.C.

Edgar L. Horswill, Post 1325, Portland, Ore.; Monroe Spencer, Post 9539, Spartanburg, S.C.; Harold G. Childress, Post 3382, Kingsport, Tenn.; Buford E. Hudson, Post 2147, Wichita Falls, Texas; Benjamin F. Chappell, Post 9191, Killeen, Texas; Robert E. Madsen, Post 9192, Killeen, Texas; Sanford Rosenthal, Post 3586, Salt Lake City, Utah; C.E. Grimmett, Post 5580, Yelm, Wash.; and Clifton M. Anderson, Post 1435, Spokane, Wash.



'We Build, We Fight, Can Do'

"The only trouble with the Seabees is that we don't have enough of them."

—Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur,
Supreme Commander,
Allied Forces, Pacific, World War II.

By Charles P. Clarke

When the Seabees first landed on Guadalcanal in August, 1942, Marines on the island often joked, "Never hit a Seabee. He could be a Marine's father."

Or grandfather. In World War II, the average age of the more than 325,000 men of the Navy's Construction Battalions was 37, and some were over 50. But the "ConBats," as they first were called, quickly won the respect and admiration of the millions of soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who fought from Guadalcanal to Tokyo, from North Africa to Rome and from Normandy to Berlin. Indeed, the several roads to victory in World War II were paved, literally, by the gutsy guys in green fatigues and upturned baseball-type caps who became known far and wide as the Seabees.

"Construimus, Battuimus (We Build, We Fight), Can Do!" was the Seabees' proud motto. And do they did—from Pearl Harbor to the wars in Korea and Vietnam and, more recently, alongside their old friends, the Marines, in Lebanon.

Last November, soon after the Marines' headquarters at Beirut airport were demolished by a suicide truck-bomb attack, 80 men of the Seabees' Mobile Construction Battalion No. 1 came ashore to help build new fortified positions and facilities for the embattled Leathernecks. They didn't leave until the Marines themselves were redeployed in February to ships off shore.

The Seabees' roster now totals a peacetime 12,500 men, comprising eight battalions divided between Port Hueneme, Calif., and Gulfport, Miss. But contingents of Seabee reserves continue to train as part of the Naval Reserve Construction Force program. Though most of today's Seabees are in their early 20s, they are imbued with the "Can Do" tradition of their World War II predecessors that began with the Seabees' authorization as a full-fledged branch of the Navy on March 5, 1942, under Rear Adm. Ben Moreell, the Navy's chief civil engineer and head of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, otherwise known as — the "King Bee."

The Seabees like to tell how they sometimes got to Japanese-held islands ahead of the Marines. For example, when the Leathernecks charged ashore on enemy-occupied New Georgia in the Pacific at dawn on June 21, 1943, who should emerge from the jungle but an advance detachment of Seabees, surveying sites for a new airfield.

"The Seabees are always happy to welcome the Marines," said smiling Lt. Robert L. Ryan, commander of Construction Battalion No. 47.

Later in the war, when 600 Marines with fixed bayonets stormed ashore on Rota in the Marianas, they were greeted by a sign saying: "The 48th CBs Welcome the Marines to Rota." Though outnumbered 100 to 1 by the island's Japanese garrison, a 35-man Seabee detachment had gone ashore three

days earlier to begin work on a variety of construction projects.

In retrospect, the World War II achievements of the Seabees stagger the imagination. Drawn largely from the construction trades, the Seabees included carpenters, plumbers, electricians, welders, machinists, steamfitters, ironworkers. They had built bridges and dams, roads and waterworks, erected skyscrapers, dug tunnels, strung power lines. Now, with the military, they were sweating airfields, fuel depots, ship-to-shore causeways, you-name-it. When necessary, they switched from tools to carbines and fought like tigers with combat skills taught by Marine instructors.

Following the Marines ashore on Guadalcanal in August, 1942, the Seabees helped hold a narrow beachhead against human-wave enemy attacks. Meanwhile, they converted a muddy, Japanese-built airstrip into Henderson Field, a key, all-weather facility capable of supporting everything from Marine fighters to B-17 bombers.

How they kept the field open and operating under nearly constant enemy bombardment and shellfire is a story of rare courage and ingenuity. The Seabees stockpiled Marston matting (pierced steel planking used as runway surfacing) at strategic points on the field, along with trucks loaded with sand and gravel. After Japanese planes bombed the airfield, Seabees "crater crews" would dash from their foxholes and, in assembly-line fashion, quickly repair the damage. Within 40

minutes of an enemy bombing run, Henderson was good as new and back in business.

During one particularly hot firefight, when the Japanese pushed to within 150 feet of the airfield perimeter, Seabee Lawrence Meyer unlimbered a .30 caliber machine gun he had salvaged and repaired, mounted it on the edge of his foxhole and calmly shot down one of the attacking enemy planes.

Improvisation and ingenuity came naturally to the Seabees. When an enemy pillbox blocked an American advance on a Treasury Island beachhead, First-Class Petty Officer Aurelio Tassone, of Milford, Mass., raised the blade of his Seabee bulldozer as a shield and, amid a hail of pinging bullets, rumbled forward, lowered the blade on the pillbox and demolished it.

Seabees in the Ellice Islands, lacking a replacement for a blown out bulldozer head gasket, fashioned a makeshift part from thin sheets of metal and paper and quickly put the 'dozer back in service. A Seabee chief on Samoa jury-rigged a replacement condenser out of waxed paper, tinfoil from cigarette packages and an old beer can to keep another tracked vehicle going. Other Seabees learned how by mounting fuel drums in place of smashed radiators.

The standard, 55-gallon fuel drum, in fact, had a variety of uses. With the ends cut off, the drums were welded together and converted into culverts. One group of Seabees even made a joyriding canoe out of empty fuel drums.

Worn out tires were kept rolling by filling them with a mixture of palm tree sawdust and cement. Beer and Coke bottles were used as insulators for power and telephone lines. Perhaps the most useful Seabee invention of all was a modular steel pontoon, five-by-seven-by five feet, devised by Capt. John N. Laycock. The adaptable pontoon, or "magic box" as it was called, soon was in mass production for a multitude of uses in the Navy's vast amphibious operations. A Seabee cook in the Russell Islands even converted a pair of the pontoons into an oven and grill.

Later, Capt. Laycock's "magic boxes" were used in assembling the huge pontoon barges that ferried cargo ashore on the beaches of Normandy. Each barge consisted of 180 pontoons, assembled into a configuration measuring six pontoons wide and 30 pon-

toons long, and powered by two large outboard motors. A specially developed loading and unloading ramp was installed at one end. Each of the pontoon craft could transport half an LST load of supplies and the equipment over shallow water and onto the beaches for quick unloading.

A Navy pilot, spotting the strange-looking contraption being tested at Quonset, R.I., said it looked for all the world like a rhinoceros. "Rhino ferry" soon became the unofficial name of this Seabee innovation that helped supply the beaches of Normandy on D-Day and beyond.

By all measurements, World War II marked not only history's darkest period of destruction but also its era of mightiest construction. In both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters, the Seabees built more than 400 advanced military bases at a cost of nearly 11 billion in 1940-45 dollars. In the Pacific alone, the Seabees built 111 major airfields, 441 piers, 700 square blocks of warehouses, storage tanks for 100 million gallons of gasoline, hospitals to serve 70,000 patients and housing for 1.5 million men.

Among their most prodigious feats was construction of the world's largest airbase on Tinian for use by America's new fleet of B-29s against the Japanese homeland less than 2,000 miles away. Beginning the summer of 1944, and even before the Marines had secured the island, an army of some 15,000 Seabees was at work day and night, building the six runways, each a mile and a half long, together with 11 miles of connecting taxiway and hardstand for 265 planes. Also erected on Tinian were nearly 1,000 buildings, miles of roads, fuel and ammunition storage facilities and utility systems for the huge base.

During the Tinian construction project, the Seabees blasted out enough coral rock to build three Hoover dams, using an average of 12 tons of dynamite a day. They also rolled out enough asphalt to pave a highway from New York to Boston. And in the greatest superlative of all, the first of the giant B-29 runways was completed in 53 days, thus hastening the end of the war.

For sheer heroics, the Seabees point to their construction of a roadway to the top of Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima, in March, 1945. Someone had said it couldn't be done. But men of the Seabees' 31st Battalion had the

"impossible" road open in 12 days, after a demolition team cleared the trail of mines and booby traps and after a bulldozer reached the top followed by graders, scrapers and dump trucks—all while the construction teams and the Marines battled Japanese snipers hidden on the slopes.

There were, of course, many other achievements along the islandhopping way to victory in the Pacific: the lonely island of Guam, 6,000 miles from the U.S., converted into a wartime metropolis with its harbor, Apra, becoming the second busiest port in the world, after Antwerp; a reef-bound basin at Canton Island dredged into a five-lane seaplane lagoon; Johnston Island doubled in size as the Seabees poured coral and concrete into the adjoining sea. In July, 1943, the Seabees' 47th Battalion fought tropical downpours, hip-deep mud and die-hard Japanese defenders to complete an airstrip at Munda, New Georgia, in a record 10 days. The next month, joined by the 24th and 73rd battalions, Munda was converted into what Adm. William F. (Bull) Halsey called "the finest base in the South Pacific."

In one of the biggest construction jobs of the war, 50,000 Seabees teamed up with a like number of Army Engineers to turn the once sleepy island of Okinawa into a massive military base for the final assault on Japan. The project was half-completed when Japan surrendered, but the Seabees left calling cards everywhere on Okinawa, including 800 miles of modern highways, and a huge traffic circle in the heart of Kadena, the capital, that rivals the best of such designs anywhere in the world.

For all this, and more, the Seabees paid a heavy price: More than 300 combat deaths and over 2,000 Purple Hearts in the Pacific alone. But they had earned the distinction of serving in every amphibious operation of the war including duty on more than 300 islands and on five continents: Asia, Australia, North America, Europe and, later in Antarctica.

NFW

(In a later issue, the writer will review Seabee exploits to the present time.)

2 Million Now

Major figures in diplomacy and military address General Session during Mid-Winter Conference in Washington as VFW sets sights on reaching 2 million members by end of 1983-1984 year.

By James K. Anderson

Throughout the Sheraton Washington Hotel during the annual Mid-Winter Conference, pins blossomed in lapels.

They bore the words, "2 Million Now," to emphasize the VFW's determination to reach that figure in membership when the 1983-84 year, Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson's year, concludes.

That it is attainable was pointed out by Olson who noted that the 1,960,000 reached at the end of 1983 was only 40,000 short of the 2 million mark, which has been a VFW goal for several years.

A special incentive was announced by Olson for recruiters of five new or reinstated members between March 1 and June 30. This is a specially designed recruiter award pin.

It was also pointed out during the Mid-Winter Conference that with 2 million members, the VFW will be in an even stronger position to combat anti-veteran influences that would curtail, slash or even eliminate veterans' benefits and parcel out to other agencies Veterans Administration functions.

Opposition to such moves was expressed by Commander-in-Chief Olson in the VFW's legislative recommendations which he presented to the House

and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees on March 6. For the full text of his presentation, see Command Post, page 6.

Banners carrying out the "2 Million Now" theme festooned the walls of the large meeting hall at the Sheraton Washington where more than 3,000 VFW leaders from all echelons of the organization gathered March 5 for the General Session.

Highlight was the presentation of the Citizenship Gold Medal Award by Commander-in-Chief Olson to Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, permanent United States representative to the United Nations, for her work on behalf of this country in that international body.

Her citation, which Olson read, called her a "tireless champion of democracy" and "a fighter for American values."

In accepting the award, she described the VFW as an organization having "a record of distinguished service of the highest caliber to our country."

Although a scholar devoted to international relations, Mrs. Kirkpatrick said her past three years at the UN were a series of shocks as representatives of blatant human rights-violating nations such as the USSR, Ethiopia, Poland, Libya and Iran attacked the U.S.

She said the 1980 elections, which sent President Reagan to the White House, "marked the end of a national identity crisis" and a return "of confidence in the decency of America."

Before the elections, she said, "the

Soviet Union was never stronger and the U.S. never weaker. It was a time of terrible unprecedented danger to liberty, democracy, Western civilization. It was a time of defeatism, delusion and self-doubt. It was not a sign of growing American maturity in a complex world, but a symptom of despair."

Mrs. Kirkpatrick was critical of what she called the "liberal elite" who have lost touch with the American people, based on opinion polls, and even equate the U.S. rescue mission to Grenada with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

"Almost all of us agree that firm American leadership and a strong America make fighting unnecessary," she said.

At present, she continued, the nation is engaged in a debate over Central America.

"I believe the fate of Central America is central to our own national security," she continued. "I have sympathy for the people of El Salvador, a small and poverty-stricken nation targeted by the Soviet Union."

Attacking what she saw as a double-standard in the debate over aid to El Salvador, she said the liberal elite does not object to aid to Zimbabwe, Bangladesh or Middle Eastern countries, all human rights violators, but has singled out aid to Central America, specifically El Salvador, to oppose.

"I wonder why," she said. "How does it happen that El Salvador is subjected to such a unique standard?"

"There are no possible moral grounds for standing by while a people surrender to Marx-Leninism—not on moral, economic or strategic grounds," she said. "We must insist that people become serious about the threat in Central America. We must insist that a policy be adopted to protect our and their moral values."

Earlier in the General Session, Commander-in-Chief Olson and Prosper Ego, who heads the Foundation of the Legion of Ex-Servicemen of the Netherlands, signed a Declaration of Brotherhood, establishing fraternal ties between the two organizations committed, as they are, to freedom and democracy, the Atlantic Alliance and opposition to Communism.

"We are convinced that today it is more important than ever before to be active in preserving the closest relations possible between your country and its European partners," Ego said. "We believe very strongly that only from a position of strength can peace be preserved and we can deter those who would try to destroy our liberties."

"Our slogan on a little sticker which became very popular in my country makes that abundantly clear. It reads: 'Rather a missile in my garden than a Russian in my kitchen.'"

"We consider the deployment of modern weapon systems a necessity and in that context are active in our support for that great Alliance of ours—the North Atlantic Treaty Organization—seeing it as a reflection of the desire of all the allied countries to protect their sovereignty against aggression and it will take all our efforts to continue the success story of that Alliance in years to come."

Ego related that in 1968 his organization led a demonstration of 10,000

persons in The Hague, capital of the Netherlands, in support of Americans fighting in Vietnam.

Commander-in-Chief Olson presented two posthumous VFW Distinguished Service Medals to the widows of Phelps Jones and Thorne H. Marlow, respectively Director VFW National Security and Foreign Affairs and Public Affairs Director in the VFW Washington Office.

Col. Jones died in December and Col. Marlow in January.

Retired Gen. William C. Westmoreland, under whom both served during the Vietnam War, praised both as soldiers and patriots. He also discussed his libel suit against the Columbia Broadcasting System, adding that the support he has received "has been absolutely amazing." He also thanked the VFW for a resolution passed at the 1982 National Convention supporting him in his litigation.

Westmoreland was followed to the podium by Ladies Auxiliary President Harriet Timmons who presented Olson with a \$65,000 check as the Auxiliary's contribution toward VFW programs.

A SACLANT briefing team updated those attending the General Session on the strength of the naval forces available to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and measures that would be taken to combat any aggression against its members by potential adversaries.

Everyone left the General Session pledged to work to achieve the 2 million goal before the end of the 1983-1984 membership year.



Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., calls on all VFW members to work to reach the goal of 2 million members by the end of the 1983-1984 membership year.



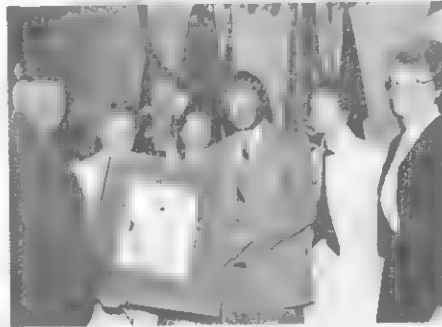
Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., welcomes Gen. William C. Westmoreland to the podium at the General Session of the Mid-Winter Conference.



Mrs. Harriet Timmons, Ladies Auxiliary President, speaks after presenting the VFW with a \$65,000 check for its programs.



Mrs. Dorothy Jones accepts the posthumous VFW Distinguished Service Medal in honor of her late husband, Phelps Jones, Director of National Security and Foreign Affairs at the time of his death last December. Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., made the presentation. Right is Carter Jones.



Family members accept from Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., the posthumous VFW Distinguished Service Medal honoring the late Thorne H. Marlow, who was Director of Public Affairs for the VFW Washington Office at the time of his death last January. Mrs. Frances Marlow is to Olson's immediate left.



Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., presents the VFW Citizenship Gold Medal Award and Citation to Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, permanent United States representative to the United Nations. In the center is Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron. (Wide World)

Veterans Deserve the Best

By Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt

Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt (Ark.), ranking minority member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, was the 1984 recipient of the VFW Congressional Award "for outstanding service to the nation." It was presented by Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., at the Congressional Dinner at the Sheraton Washington Hotel on March 6, final event of the annual Mid-Winter Conference. The \$1,000 check accompanying the award was designated by Rep. Hammerschmidt for the College of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Ark. This is the text of his acceptance speech.

Receipt of this prestigious award is a high honor, one to be cherished. I accept it in full knowledge that it comes by no means from my efforts alone but from the efforts of a multitude of my colleagues, past and present, who share our belief that veterans of this nation's wars are a very special citizenry, who have earned and deserve the program of benefits, enacted for them by a grateful people, through their representatives in the Congress of the United States.

To receive the Congressional Award from such an organization as the VFW is especially meaningful, for during all of my nearly 18 years in the Congress, we have walked side-by-side.

Your positions on veterans' and defense issues have been consistently realistic yet firm, and it has been an honor to fully associate myself with the stands you have taken on many, many occasions.

Together, we have seen veterans' programs vastly improved.

And often, our nation has been helped to stand tall around the world by your resolute posture that our time-honored freedoms and liberty can only persevere when our national leaders can speak from a position of strength and confidence.

It has been a welcome duty to have labored in these vineyards with you. To be singled out for this honor because of labor is high praise indeed.

Mr. Commander, when you appeared before the Veterans Affairs Committee this morning to present the annual legislative program of the VFW, you brought to our attention the priorities of a very responsible organization. You did so in calm, deliberate and forceful words. In my opinion you reflected great credit on the VFW and its Auxiliary.

The resolutions you described, the legislation you recommended and the improvement in veterans' programs which you advocated were reasonable and responsible and I congratulate you for your presentation.

One position you advocated is worthy of special note. I want you to know that I completely share your hope that the position of Administrator of Veterans' Affairs will be elevated to Cabinet rank where it belongs. Chairman Sonny Montgomery of the House Veterans Affairs Committee will furnish the leadership and I will work with you toward the accomplishment of this objective.

Mr. Commander, it has been our privilege for a number of years to hear the Voice of Democracy winner at these annual Congressional dinners.

No one who recognizes the great blessing of our country's heritage could hear the voice of those winners without being very moved and without being reminded again and again that the future of our country is in

good hands.

Tonight was no exception. And as congratulations are extended to the winner of this year's competition, so also are congratulations bestowed on the VFW for sponsoring this excellent program.

The young men and women on this rostrum tonight are prime disciples of good citizenship and love of nation. It is a privilege to share this platform with them.

In this nation's efforts to assist veterans and their dependents, the VFW has played a pivotal role. Today, over 2,600,000 of these individuals receive compensation because of service connected disability. Another 1,500,000 needy disabled war veterans or their survivors receive pensions. Over 500,000 Vietnam veterans are still going to school under the GI Bill. About 1,400,000 veterans will receive medical inpatient care this year. And 18,500,000 outpatient visits will occur in VA facilities.

When these figures and the events which generated them are considered, the conclusion is quickly reached that this nation cares and cares mightily about those 28,000,000 men and



Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., presents VFW Congressional Award to Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt.

women who have as their common denominator the fact that they served this nation well and honorably in times of national peril.

In this connection, I am pleased to note that the VFW and I are in complete agreement on a number of vital veterans' issues:

We both believe in an equitable and good VA budget.

We both believe that benefits for service connected disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors, must be very high on the list of national priorities.

We both believe that the needy disabled veterans must be entitled to pensions; that they are entitled to dignity and that they must never be relegated to welfare rolls.

We both believe that this nation must maintain a medical care program for veterans that is second to none and that so-called mainstreaming is the very opposite of what we should do and the very opposite of what we will do.

We both believe in the maintenance of veterans' preference in public employment as a bulwark of the veterans' benefits structure.

In short, Mr. Commander, we both believe that the total programs for veterans and their dependents that the VFW, other great veterans' organizations and the Congress have evolved over these many years is the conscience of our nation and that it must

Listening to Rep. Hammerschmidt's speech are Sen. Alan K. Simpson, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum and Sen. Strom Thurmond (S.C.).



be, should be and will be maintained and defended with every ounce of our mutual strength.

There are, of course, those who say it costs too much. And there is some truth in what they say. It does cost too much, just as there have been too many wars. But the veterans of those wars did not intend to become casualties and did not intend to need the benefits that a grateful nation provided for them.

For my part, it is a badge of honor to have long been among those who deeply believe that good veterans' programs ought to be preserved, protected and improved—deserving substantial priority over other federal programs and needs not nearly so high on

Before Rep. Hammerschmidt spoke, Sen. Jennings Randolph (W.Va.), retiring after more than five decades in Congress, was introduced. Two days later, he turned 82. Right is Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.

the moral agenda of our nation.

Those veterans' programs are in my view a stark example of the costs of war which continue long after the hostilities cease.

This is not only a fact of life; it is recognition of a simple national truth that ought to be the hallmark of all that we do in veterans' affairs.

It will be my continuing purpose to pursue that noble objective. And with the spirited assistance of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, I expect that our success will continue.

For this nation is a good nation, one that reaches out, even to the stars, to do what is right. Sometimes, it appears that we move too slowly and sometimes it seems we wait too long.

However, in the final analysis, that is a price of representative government. But the ultimate result is what counts and I have supreme confidence that in the end we will do what is right and what is just.

Mr. Commander, one could not be, and ought not be, the recipient of your Congressional Award without commenting upon the VFW position on national defense and national security.

In this connection, I count Mr. George Bush, a former colleague in the Congress and now Vice President of the United States, as a dear friend.

The Vice President often says that

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Korea: Freedom's Edge

By Billy Ray Cameron
VFW Senior
Vice Commander-in-Chief

The view is bleak at Panmunjom. The Joint Security Area is squeezed into the very gut of the so-called Demilitarized Zone that separates the free Republic of Korea from the Communist north. I stood at United Nations Command Observation Post No. 5 atop a low knoll that sits almost on the Military Demarcation Line at the precise center of the DMZ that divides south from north.

About 300 yards away was the rotting stump of the poplar tree that in 1976 was the arena for two brutal murders and behind that, beyond farmland and the empty buildings of Paekchon-ni—"Peace Village"—loomed the cold, forbidding mountains of North Korea.

It was cold in Korea, but the cold is much more than Mother Nature. There is an ideological chill, too, that keeps apart families and friends. The temporary national division imposed by the major powers at the end of World War II was frozen by war—first cold then hot.

The tension at Korea's DMZ is forbidding. Its chill is felt even down in sprawling Seoul, a booming metropolis of 9 million. The residents' horizon is bright in every direction except to the north. There the threat to their liberty and amazing economic success has increased, not abated, in the more than 30 years since armed truce called a halt to daily gunfire. Koreans cannot forget that those three years of violence killed more than a million people on both sides and left the entire peninsula in ruins.

After three years of war, there was no winner and little had been gained. Even the exchange of territory from pre-war days would have been insignificant except that it left North Korean forces even closer to the ROK capital, only 26 miles south of the DMZ as a MIG flies. The most impor-

tant outcome was the ROK had survived the threat to its freedom—even though the threat itself was not ended.

The 1953 armistice agreement was, initially, a temporary remedy to the shooting war. Today, it is the longest military truce in modern history.

The United States took a moral stand in Korea in 1950 as it had not done a half century earlier when Japanese occupation and annexation were not opposed. After World War II, the U.S. wrote the conditions for a free and independent Korea, but was unable to persuade its wartime ally, the Soviet Union, to honor its agreement.

American occupation forces were pulled out and the problem was turned over to the United Nations, thinking that would end direct U.S. involvement in Korean affairs. Then, on June 25, 1950, North Korea launched an all-out attack.

America and the United Nations met the challenge that time and this country accepted the proffered leadership for a collective defense.

It was in many ways a strange war. For some time it was not even called that. It was a "police action" to "enforce a UN Security Council resolution."

The United States was the leader in this defense that drew combat forces from 16 other nations, including the ROK. The casualty toll was appalling, as were the physical destruction and displacement of families.

The war moved up and down the peninsula twice before settling down to two more years of stalemated battles in hills not far from the original border along the 38th Parallel. For the watching world, however, the important action in Korea had moved to the armistice table, first at Kaesong and then to the destroyed "Village of the Wooden Gate"... Panmunjom.

Men still died in the disputed hills. No one, even those who fought them, expected these bloody, limited "skirmishes" to change the war's outcome. The focus remained on Panmunjom

to confirm the final terms of the stalemate. The world watched and waited for over two years before an armistice agreement was signed.

The armistice agreement called for a ceasefire, establishment of a buffer zone between the combatants, neutral observers to verify each side's claims of compliance and creation of a joint body to settle future violations without resorting to renewed fighting. It also called for political talks among all parties concerned to resolve the issues which had led to war so that divided Korea could again be one.

The talks failed, and so the armistice agreement remained in effect as the legal basis for peace on the Korean peninsula. The United States, as the leader of the UN forces, was left to carry out the terms of the truce document.

In 1953, the United States and the ROK signed a mutual defense treaty—their first direct pledge of support against outside aggression. That launched the commitment that today binds the American and Korean alliance. The two nations are fully committed to a mutual security arrangement that serves Seoul's defense requirements as well as U.S. strategic interests in Northeast Asia.

In the post-war years, the United States realized that Korea could not be considered in isolation from its Asian neighbors. That recognition and the ROK's growing economic and military strength gave impetus to a more equitable arrangement between the partners.

Militarily, this reassessment resulted in creation of a ROK/US Combined Forces Command in 1978 to meet defense needs. During my visit to the Republic, I had an opportunity, along with Cooper T. Holt, Executive Director of the VFW Washington Office, to meet the commander-in-chief of this integrated headquarters, Gen. Robert W. Sennewald.

We talked about the general situation in Korea and whether it was

worth our while. We have been there for a long time. Some people call Korea the "forgotten front." No definitive history of the war has ever been written. It still goes on as an armed truce.

And it is still dangerous. Nearly 60 Americans have died at North Korea's hands in the 30 years since the armistice was signed. Several hundred Koreans on both sides of the DMZ have been slain during the same time.

The fault is North Korea's. Kim Il Sung, North Korea's one and only leader, has sought since the end of World War II to rule the entire peninsula. He has created an oppressive garrison state conditioned to make any sacrifice to try to conquer the South. For that reason, North Korea over the past decade has been able to continue a covert program to attain total military superiority over the ROK.

It has been an effective program. North Korea holds many significant military advantages—particularly numerical advantages—in a number of key areas such as combat battalions, medium tanks, armored personnel carriers, artillery and multiple rocket launcher systems, aircraft and naval combatants.

These powerful offensive forces cost North Korea about 25% of its annual Gross National Product and deny the possibility of a decent life for its people. The superior strength, sophisticated training, forward deployment and offensive posturing of North Korea's forces make the possibility of conflict very real to the men at the DMZ outposts. More than a million well-armed and well-trained forces face each other across the 2-mile-wide buffer where the Free World says "No!" to totalitarianism.

Gen. Sennewald discussed President Reagan's trip to the DMZ. Before going to a guard post not far from where I stood at Panmunjom, the President attended a chapel service with the 2nd Infantry Division troops in the field. An Army chaplain told him how important it was that he personally visit the American soldiers at the "Edge of Freedom."

That is the perfect term. Beyond that edge where Americans and our ROK ally serve, there is no freedom. The forces of freedom have a sharp cutting edge. Gen. Sennewald assured me that his command is good and getting better — that the ROK and U.S. units can operate as a team and their combined strength will prevail, if fight they must.

He didn't say it would be easy and he didn't promise casualties would be few. He emphasized instead that America has an honorable mission in Korea and that it is a worthy and necessary use of American military power for peace in the face of persistent danger.

Gen. Sennewald's Army duty as a young lieutenant was leading combat troops in Korea, and he left some of his blood in the Chorwon Valley, east across the mountains from where I stood at Panmunjom.

He is a believer in the U.S. objectives in Korea. He believes the security of Northeast Asia is directly linked to Korea and that an outbreak of hostilities on the peninsula could spark a major power confrontation.

I listened and I agreed. The United States cannot afford to neglect North Korea's potential to disrupt the balance that keeps Northeast Asia stable and at peace.

He didn't ask for much, except understanding of and respect for the U.S. position in Korea and for this country's forces there. Korea has the second highest concentration of American forces outside the United States. Most people think they're left over from the war that ended there 30 years ago. They're not. They are a commitment to our treaty there. They are a deterrent to the massive arms buildup in the north. They are a stabilizing influence in all of Northeast Asia.

They are not a dole from Uncle Sam; the Koreans pay their own way and also contribute to base support for American forces.

It will take time to improve the imbalance of military power that North Korea's buildup has created. While the ROK works to reduce the gap, U.S. forces are essential to ensure a credible deterrent. President Reagan during his visit there in November pledged the United States would continue to maintain its forces in Korea and would strengthen them.

The potential for violence there remains high. If we needed a reminder, the brutal murders in Burma of ROK government leaders proves that Kim Il Sung persists in his goal to unify the peninsula on his terms. He will be dissuaded from another try at forceful unification only by the prospect of sure defeat by U.S. and ROK forces. That is the situation today.

As we parted, Gen. Sennewald told me he was confident the Combined Forces, with necessary augmentation by outside American units, could win on the battlefield. With that kind of strength, the deterrent to war should hold, he added.

Behind me, the shuffling of a sentry's feet told me he was wondering why I tarried there so long.

I turned away from Observation Post No. 5 to return to Seoul, thinking that it really is a phony world up there in the north. It's time that Kim Il Sung and the rest of North Korea's fanatical leaders wake up to reality. American ties with the Republic of Korea are stronger than ever.

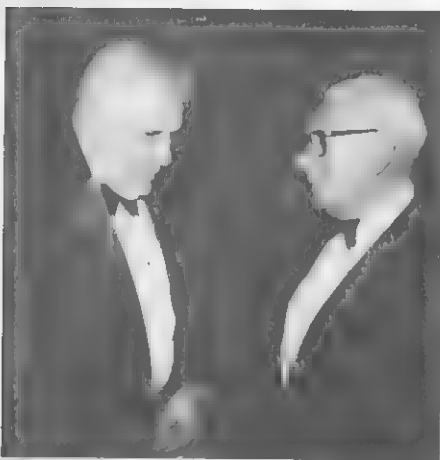
VFW

Gen. Robert W. Sennewald, commander-in-chief of the ROK/US Combined Forces Command, welcomes VFW Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron.



Congressional Dinner Reception

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Commander-in-Chief Joseph Scerra.
- 2 Prosper Ego, Netherlands veterans' leader,
Commander-in-Chief Olson.
- 3 Paul Bannai, Commander-in-Chief Olson.
- 4 With Congressional Award, are Mrs. Virginia
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merschmidt (Ark.), VFW Commander-in-
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Mrs. Harriet Timmons, President of VFW
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5 VFW Sergeants-at-Arms pose with
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- 6 Past Commanders-in-Chief Herbert R. Rain-
water and Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., Les
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- 7 Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray
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Ray Cameron.

Staum Visits Egypt and Israel

By Wade LaDue

Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum recently completed an intensive trip to Egypt and Israel for a firsthand look at a portion of the volatile Middle East.

Staum received comprehensive military-political briefings from U.S. Embassy officials in Egypt; discussed the area situation with U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Veliotis, a member of the VFW, and learned details of the \$100 million a year Multi-National Peace-keeping Force in the Sinai operation from the organization's liaison office in Cairo.

Staum also spent one day with Suez Canal Authority officials in Ismailia learning of the operational capabilities and traffic procedures used in this strategic waterway.

In Israel, the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief was briefed by U.S. Embassy officials; toured the Golan Heights and observed Israeli military units stationed there; discussed area ramifications with Israeli Defense Force (IDF) officers; and toured the important Israeli Aircraft Industry complex. He received another view of the issues from experts in the Strategic Studies Department of Tel Aviv University and spent several hours observing activities in the National Disabled Veterans Center. Local veterans' groups, the Israel War Veterans League and the American Jewish War Veterans assisted in the overall itinerary.

Following are brief excerpts from notes taken during the trip. Obviously with the pace of change in that part of the world, some of the findings have been overtaken by subsequent events.

Amidst the seemingly non-stop, bumper-to-bumper, horn-blowing traffic of Cairo, the U.S. Embassy is located a few blocks from the east bank of the Nile River. A new embassy complex under construction in an adjacent area is to house most of the personnel assigned to what is now this country's

largest diplomatic activity anywhere.

Defense attache officials said the foreign military sales request for Egypt in the 1985 budget amounts to \$117 billion. Equipment programs include C-130, F-4 and F-16 aircraft. Egypt has fielded nearly 12 Improved Hawk air defense missile batteries and has purchased the TOW anti-tank missile. About 500 M-60 tanks are on hand out of a total buy of nearly 800.

There appears to be a "Catch 22" situation in the Egyptian military personnel induction system, which, with



Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum meets with U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Nicholas Veliotis.

an almost non-existent NCO corps, contributes to a lack of general technical expertise. Non-high school graduates are drafted for three years at age 18, high school graduates for two years and college graduates for six months. Some complaints have been voiced over the sophistication of U.S. equipment, but with time, the Egyptians appear to be adapting quite well.

According to embassy officials, Egypt considers Libya her greatest direct threat along with Libyan-sponsored insurrections in neighboring states.

Concern over Israel remains. The present climate between the two countries has been termed a "cold peace." The Camp David Accords allow Egypt to station more than 20,000 troops in the Sinai, but this figure has never been approached.

Domestically, Egypt is experiencing an annual population increase of 1 million. President Hosni Mubarak, as part of his strong focus on domestic issues, has called for wide open general elections this month, the first of this kind since World War II.

Ambassador Veliotis told Staum Egypt is a "hinge" country, not totally Arab, African, Oriental, Mediterranean or Occidental but in part all of these. Egypt is emerging from a deep five-year sleep in domestic and international affairs.

The memories of the Soviet presence in Egypt are not pleasant. The USSR has not been represented by an ambassador for several years, but does maintain a small presence in local industries and at the Soviet-built dam at Aswan. As Egypt attempts to maintain a non-aligned status, the return of a Soviet ambassador would come as no surprise.

Firm demonstrations of U.S. resolve are keys to success in the Middle East, Southwest Asia area. The handling of the hostage situation in Iran was a real disappointment to many nations in the region, but actions such as the initiation of the annual Bright Star military exercises, sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia, pre-stocking of supplies in the region and presence of the U.S. fleet has helped to restore confidence in the U.S. Egypt opposed the withdrawal of the Marines from Lebanon.

Embassy operations emphasize cooperation and assisting Egypt in its national goals. The ever-changing kaleidoscope of Middle East events is shifting in Egypt's favor with, among other things, its re-entry into the Islamic Conference and its membership in the UN Security Council.

Strained relations with Israel are due in part to the perception that the U.S. can control Israel. Also, Egypt feels the present Israeli government is not committed to a solution in Lebanon, which in part, prompted the recall of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel.

Short term problems include the election postures of the U.S., Egypt and Israel; Congressional approval of aid to Egypt, which, if cut, could cause strains and the continuing question of Lebanon, which allows time for little else.

The Sinai peacekeeping force operation stems from the 1979 peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Eleven countries, including the U.S., participate in verifying that treaty provisions are observed. Reinforced battalions from the U.S. Army's 82d Airborne Division and 101st Air Mobile Division alternate every six months. They are assigned to positions in the extreme southern sector of the Sinai.

Ismailia, on the mid-point of the Suez Canal, is the site for the headquarters of the Suez Canal Authority. Authority officials briefed Staum on the intricate workings of the waterway through which over 70 vessels pass daily. The lock-and dam-free canal is about 115 miles long and, for example, shaves about 30% off the sailing distance from an oil port in the Persian Gulf to New York. Navigation through the canal is handled by highly trained pilots and a complex system of radar, radio and computer supported networks. Tariffs are based on the earning capacity of the ship.

ISRAEL

Israel's people from 18 to 54 are the military. The country is small, only a few hours drive from Beirut, Damascus or Amman. Almost every place is within range of artillery or missiles from potential enemy nations or terrorist groups. As in Egypt, Staum's itinerary was arranged through the U.S. Embassy on the shores of the Mediterranean in Tel Aviv. Discussions began there with defense attache officials.

Israel maintains a 600-plane air force which uses both Israeli and U.S.-built fighter, interceptor and surveillance aircraft. Recent purchases from the U.S. include about a dozen F-15s and 70 F-16s. Israel is presently developing a new fighter aircraft for the late 1980s timeframe, 300 of which will cost about \$16 million per plane.

The Israeli Air Force-controlled air defense assets include the U.S.-made Improved Hawk.

The army is a highly mechanized force of about half a million including a sizable reserve element. It uses a variety of Israeli, U.S. and captured Soviet-made weaponry.

The navy places third in budgetary priority. Its primary role is coastal defense and occasional amphibious operations. This service is presently at a crossroads in developing future missions. One element favors expansion into a limited "blue water" capability while another favors retention of the traditional coastal role using hydrofoil technology.

In the military-political spectrum, Israel is worried that sales of military hardware to neighboring Arab states will cancel its present qualitative edge. Israel also is concerned that Syria, Iraq and perhaps other adjacent states have not abandoned war as an option. Basically, the Israelis cannot defeat the whole Arab world, but must keep one or two enemies from their door and sit down at the peace table.

Complicating and contributing to this are the Palestinian, West Bank, Gaza Strip issues, mired in a confusing array of political, geographic and security considerations to say nothing of historical and Biblical beliefs.

Staum spent one day with the IDF visiting a tank unit stationed on the Golan Heights plus key towns on the Syrian and Lebanon borders. A drive through the Jordan Valley graphically demonstrated Israel's concern over the

security needs of her northern settlements. The IDF escort told Staum that in general, 18-year-olds are drafted into the military for three years and serve in the reserve forces until 54. The commitment in Lebanon is economically debilitating as reservists must leave their jobs and businesses for periods longer than the customary 30 days of annual active duty.

The Israeli Aircraft Industries complex dominates a corner of the Ben Gurion (Lod) Airport outside Tel Aviv. The government-directed, \$800 million-a-year operation employs about 20,000 workers in its five major divisions. Staum visited military and civilian pro-

continued on page 48



Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum meets with the director of traffic for the Suez Canal Authority, Capt. Aly Nassar, and Maj. Mike Kelly, of the U.S. Embassy.

Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum visits Israeli officers on the Golan Heights. In the background is the Israeli-built Merkava (Chariot) tank.



CHICAGO



Posts are reminded again that they must register at least one delegate to the Convention, Aug. 17 to 24, and by using the attached coupon, you may register by mail at a savings of \$2.

American Sightseeing International has nine tour packages that will allow you to see Chicago in comfort and the main starting point is the Conrad Hilton Hotel, the Convention headquarters.

The first tour is of the North Side. It takes you to the Loop, State Street, Wacker Drive, over the Chicago River that flows backwards, the Wrigley

Building, the Magnificent Mile, Michigan Avenue, the Water Tower Place alongside the John Hancock Center, one of the world's tallest buildings, Wrigley Field, the home of the Cubs; the Botanical Gardens and Lincoln Park Conservatory.

The South Side Tour passes Richard J. Daley Plaza with its Pablo Picasso sculpture created especially for Chicago. Then it goes to Grant Park, site of Soldier Field where the VFW March of Champions drum and bugle corps contest will be held; the Adler Planetarium, the Joseph Petrillo bandshell,

Delegates to the 85th National Convention in Chicago may want to take some of the guided tours of the city when they are not busy at Convention business sessions or after they have concluded for the day.

Chicago by night is one of the tours that might interest delegates to the 85th VFW National Convention. (Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry Photo by Kee Chang.)

the Shedd Aquarium, the Field Museum of Natural History and the 80-story Standard Oil Building. A new close-in residential community, South Commons, is on the tour, too, as are some of Chicago's oldest buildings such as St. James's Church and Convent. Chicago's old Gold Coast, site of early millionaires' homes, Jackson Park, the University of Chicago and the Museum of Science and Industry are some of the other points of interest.

The Grand Tour, which takes four hours, combines everything on the first two tours.

Dinner in Chinatown Tour is after dark. It includes a tour of this area and a dinner at one of the Chinese restaurants. A wide variety of night scenes is provided also. For example, Old Town and Rush Street, the city's acclaimed entertainment area, are among the points of interest. The illuminated skyline, Grant Park, the new campus of the University of Illinois, Adler Planetarium and several other sites are on the schedule. Two supplementary tours include a 40-

minute visit to the observation tower of either the Sears Tower or the John Hancock Building. Passengers will be returned to their downtown or near north side hotels or the main starting point.

The Land and Lake Tour is on a streamliner yacht. Its sights are the ones on the first tour, but this tour allows you to see the Chicago River and Bridges, the Chicago Locks, the Navy Pier and the Coast Guard Station as well as other points on the shore of Lake Michigan.

The All Day Metropolitan Tour, which lasts seven or eight hours, includes all the sights on the first two tours and lunch. This one is recommended if you are not planning to stay long in the city.

Nightclubbing in Chicago Tour, the most expensive at \$32, includes a steak dinner, the floor show at the Sabre Room, followed by a visit to Milt Trenier's Show Lounge, Razzle's Dixieland or Shanghai Lil's. Reservations are required and a minimum of 20 passengers are necessary.

The Oak Park Frank Lloyd Wright Architectural Tour consists primarily of a walk-through guided tour of his home and studio. Included here are 25 of his works that include the Unity Temple that is now a National Historic Monument.

VFW

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(Make checks or money orders payable to V.F.W. 85th National Convention)

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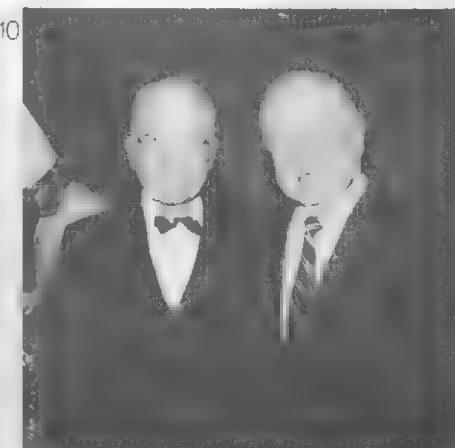
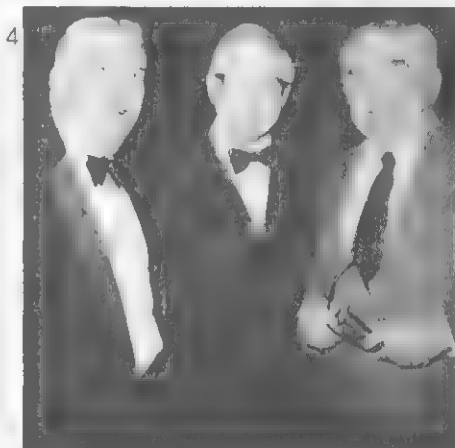
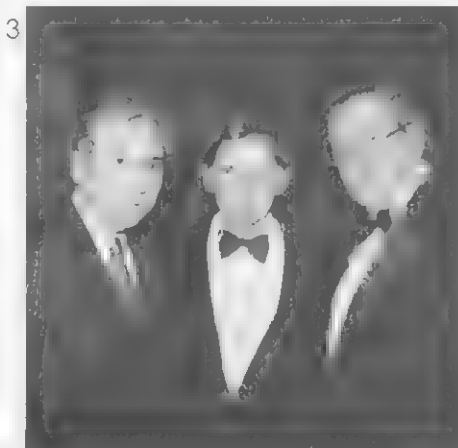
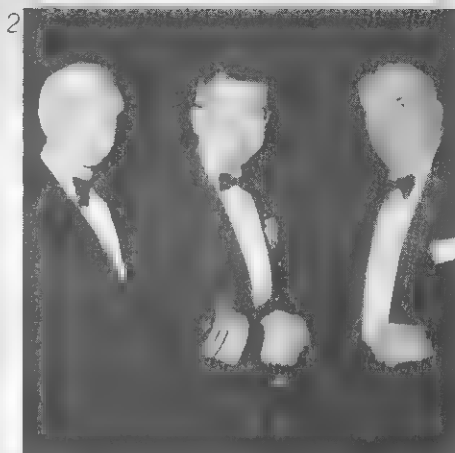
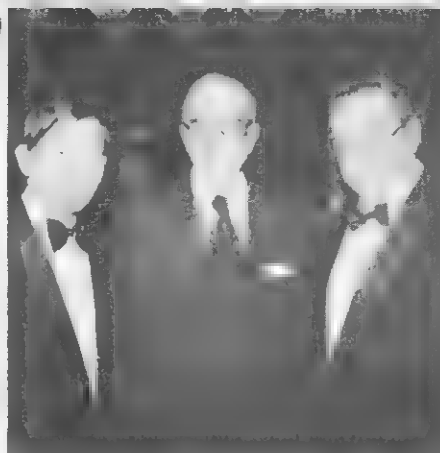
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7
Rep. Peter Rodino (N.J.), Adjutant Gen. Vander Clute.

■
Vander Clute, Ann Mills Griffiths.

■
Past Commanders-in-Chief Ray Gallagher, Richard Homan.

10
Past Commanders-in-Chief Clyde Lewis, Arthur Fellwock.



Wheelchair Games Slated for Aug. 8-11 At Brockton VAMC

June 30 is the registration deadline for the fourth National Veterans Wheelchair Games to be held Aug. 8 to 11 at the Brockton VA Medical Center, Brockton, Mass.

Competitions will include track and field events, slalom, archery, bowling, basketball, billiards (eight-ball), swimming and weightlifting.

Registrations will be by mail and no late registrations on the day of events will be permitted.

Cost is free for all wheelchair-bound military service veterans with spinal cord injuries, certain neurological problems or orthopedic amputations that require participation from a wheelchair.

Participants may register for not more than seven events and not fewer than two events in order to give everyone a fair chance at the gold medals.

Registration deadline of June 30 was established to eliminate the problem of not having enough medals and to have a complete list of this year's competitors for the souvenir programs.

Although not a sanctioned meet, NWAA rules and regulations will be adhered to.

Further information may be obtained from either Michael F Matondi, chief of the Recreation Service, or Chester Molinari, games coordinator. Both are at the VA Medical Center, Brockton (Division), Mass. 02401.

Site for the games will include the medical center's facilities, the campus of Stonehill College, Brockton High School and the Brunswick Westgate Lanes.

Competitors are expected to provide their own lodging and transportation costs to and from Brockton. The medical center will furnish transportation to and from Logan Airport and the hotel for game events and sightseeing, three meals each day Wednesday through Friday and two on Saturday in addition to the reception and banquet.

Hotel headquarters will be the Sheraton Mansfield Inn, Mansfield, Mass., and the Brockton/West Roxbury VA Medical Center Games Committee will pay each athlete's first night's lodging.

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Member Benefits

About Your New Personal Accident Protection Plan

The VFW's newest insurance offering includes \$1,000 of personal accident protection at absolutely no cost to VFW members in good standing. Included with the first 1984 Dues Renewal Notices was a Beneficiary Designation Form serving as an enrollment for this coverage. In May, 1983, the Life Members received a separate mailing. A follow-up offer was made in October, 1983, to all VFW members who had not returned a Beneficiary Form. All new and reinstated members will receive their opportunity to enroll after their name has been processed at VFW National Headquarters in Kansas City. **This coverage is not automatic.** Coverage becomes effective on the first day of the month following receipt at National Headquarters of your signed Beneficiary Designation Form.

As of the end of March, 1984, approximately 1,050,000 VFW members had taken advantage of this benefit. Many members still have not enrolled.

After you are enrolled in the \$1,000 No-Cost Plan, you are given the opportunity to take out up to \$50,000 of additional coverage for yourself and your family at economical group rates.

At age 70, the benefit amount reduces by 50% and then another 50% at age 75. This insurance pays full benefits when, as the result of an accident, an insured member loses his/her life, or loses any two or more body members including the hand, foot or use of an eye. Reduced benefits are paid for the loss of one body member or for the loss of the thumb and index finger from the same hand.

National Headquarters worked hard with personnel from American International Group (AIG), the insurance group underwriting this policy, to broaden the coverage and make it worthwhile to most VFW members.

As an example, under the "active military duty" exclusion, only full-time

continued on page 42

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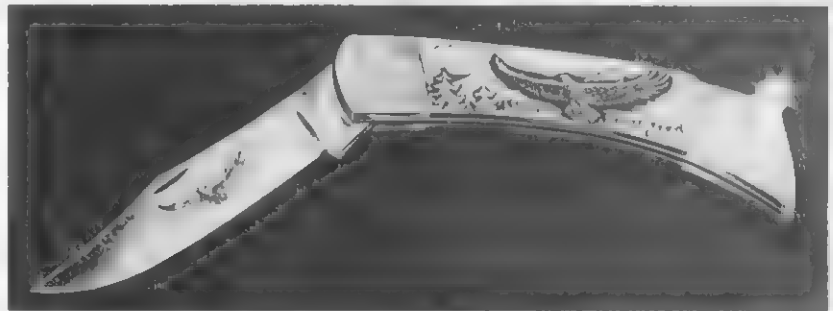
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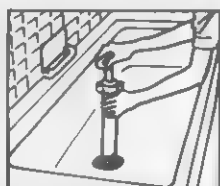
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General Orders

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States
General Orders No. 8 1983-84 Series

1. The following appointments are hereby announced: NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF: E. Hart Davis, Post 838, New Castle, Del. NATIONAL AIDES-DE-CAMP: MEDAL OF HONOR CLASS: Sammy L. Davis, Post 4549, Robinson, Ill. and Richard K. Sorenson, Post 9211, Reno, Nev.

2. Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 217 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post officers for the current year. Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Adjutant prior to installation.

The installing officer shall ascertain that a Post Election Report form has been mailed to Department and National Headquarters prior to the installation. If a Post Election Report has not been forwarded to Department and National Headquarters, the installing officer shall complete and forward such report at the time he installs the Post Officers. Attention is directed to see that the proper amount of dues the Post charges is reported to Department and National Headquarters

3. TERM OF OFFICE - COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT OFFICERS: County Council and District officers shall be given the officers' obligation before the adjournment of the meeting at which they are elected but shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed following the Department Convention. Installing officers shall ensure that a County Council/District Election Report is prepared and forwarded to Department and National Headquarters at the time of installation. Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Adjutant prior to installation.

4. Section 223 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure provides that each Post shall make the necessary arrangements for proper observance of Loyalty Day and Memorial Day. Officers should see that suitable grave markers, wreaths and United States flags are placed on the graves of deceased veterans.

5. Proposed amendments to the National By-Laws must be in proper form and must be approved by the Department Convention. Such proposals should be specific and definite as to the section, line or paragraph that is to be amended, with exact wording as to additions and deletions. Approved by-law amendments adopted by the Department Convention must be received by the Adjutant General not later than July

6, 1984, in order to meet the requirements of Section 1301, National By-Laws.

6. Resolutions for consideration of the 85th National Convention must first be approved by the Department Convention. At the close of the Department Convention, the Department Adjutants will transmit a copy of each approved resolution to the Adjutant General. Resolution should bear title and number for identification purposes.

7. Post Commanders are reminded that each Post must register one, or more, delegates to the VFW National Convention (Section 222, National Constitution and By-Laws). Advance registration for the National Convention is six dollars (\$6.00) per delegate and should be mailed to Veterans of Foreign Wars 85th National Convention, The Conrad Hilton Hotel, 720 South Michigan, Chicago, Ill., 60605. Registration at the convention will be eight dollars (\$8.00).

8. Request for hotel room reservations for the VFW 85th National Convention should be made through respective Department Headquarters.

9. In accordance with Section 111, National By-Laws, the Board of Trustees of the Life Membership Fund announces an increase of Life Member dues payments for all Life Member Plans effective with the 1985 dues year. Posts dues will increase from \$3.50 to \$4.00, Department from \$3.50 to \$4.00, and National from \$3.50 to \$4.00 for all Life Members.

Checks for all Posts, Departments, and National Headquarters will be issued on or about Sept. 17, 1984, for all Life Members recorded at National by Aug. 31, 1984.

10. The locations of the following Posts have been changed: Post 4179 from Kingston to Hamilton, Mo., and Post 4427 from Heniker to Hillsboro, N.H.

11. The name and location of the following Post have been changed, in accordance with Sections 206 and 208 of the National By-Laws: Lee Ruse Post 8359, Carlsbad to Ralph Deaver Memorial Post 8359, Ocean-side, Calif.

12. A charter has been authorized for Belmont County Council, Department of Ohio.

13. Certificates of charter evidencing consolidation have been issued to the following Posts: Posts 2675 and 9421 consolidated as Post 9421, Chicago, Ill., and Posts 5502 and 6364 consolidated as Post 6364, Richmond, VA.

14. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 285, Erie, Pa.; Post 582, Ortonville, Mich.; Post 2073, Elk Grove, Calif.; Post 2089, Niland, Calif.; Post 2360, Raynham, Mass.; Post 3644, Cass City, Mich.; Post 4887, Mendenhall, Miss.; Post 5679, Lumberton, Texas; Post 6288, Timpson, Texas; Post 6578, Sellersburg, Ind.; Post 6580, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Post 7150, St. Louis, Mo.; Post 7156, Chamois, Mo.; Post 7939, Painesville, Ohio; Post 8032, Cleveland, Ohio; Post 8072, Carle Place, N.Y.; Post 8438, Newfane, N.Y.; Post 8702, Bel-lows Falls, Vt.; Post 9325, League City, Texas; Post 9869, Branford, Fla.; Post 10350, Alief, Texas; Post 10739, Parkton, Md.; Post 10740, Heilbronn, Germany; Post 10741, Jensen, Utah; and Post 10742, Dugway, Utah.

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- USE ON ANY PAINT FINISH
- FAST ONE STEP WIPE ON WIPE OFF!

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(continued from page 39)

active military duty personnel while serving outside the United States or Canada would be excluded. However, they should return the Beneficiary Form for the insurance, at the moment they set foot in the United States or Canada whether it be for leave, TDY, re-assignment or discharge, coverage would be effective until they had again spent 30 consecutive days or more on active duty outside the United States or Canada.

If you have not returned your Beneficiary Form or wish to check on this coverage, write the VFW Personal Accident Insurance Director at the VFW National Headquarters.

VFW

VFW 1984 Department Conventions

DEPARTMENT	CITY	DATES
ALABAMA	Birmingham	June 22-24
ALASKA	Fairbanks	June 17-20
ARIZONA	Tucson	June 13-17
ARKANSAS	Little Rock	June 14-17
CALIFORNIA	Redding	June 16-21
COLORADO	Evans	June 14-16
CONNECTICUT	Hartford	June 8-10
DELAWARE	Dover	June 8-9
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	Arlington, VA	June 22-23
FLORIDA	Orlando	June 13-17
GEORGIA	Atlanta	June 22-24
GERMANY	Bamberg, W Germany	June 15-17
HAWAII	Kaunakakai	June 14-16
IDAHO	Coeur d'Alene	June 6-9
ILLINOIS	Peoria	June 21-24
INDIANA	Vincennes	June 14-17
IOWA	Des Moines	June 21-24
KANSAS	Salina	June 7-10
KENTUCKY	Louisville	June 7-10
LOUISIANA	Baton Rouge	June 8-10
MAINE	Portland	June 8-10
MARYLAND	Ocean City	June 28 July 1
MASSACHUSETTS	Springfield	June 15-17
MICHIGAN	Flint	June 21-24
MINNESOTA	St Paul	June 21-23
MISSISSIPPI	Tupelo	June 22-24
MISSOURI	Jefferson City	June 22-24
MONTANA	Billings	June 14-16
NEBRASKA	Kearney	June 15-17
NEVADA	Reno	June 14-17
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Bedford	June 22-24
NEW JERSEY	Wildwood	June 20-23
NEW MEXICO	Clovis	June 15-17
NEW YORK	Rochester	June 27-30
NORTH CAROLINA	Charlotte	June 21-24
NORTH DAKOTA	Jamestown	June 1-3
OHIO	Cleveland	June 27- July 1
OKLAHOMA	Oklahoma City	June 28 July 1
OREGON	Klamath Falls	June 20-24
PACIFIC AREAS	Seoul, Korea	June 4-8
PANAMA CANAL	- Not rec'd	Not rec'd
PENNSYLVANIA	Harrisburg	June 27- July 1
RHODE ISLAND	Providence	June 22-24
SOUTH CAROLINA	Columbia	June 29- July 1
SOUTH DAKOTA	Aberdeen	June 16-19
TENNESSEE	Pigeon Forge	June 15-17
TEXAS	Amarillo	June 22-24
UTAH	Bottle Hollow	June 22-24
VERMONT	Middlebury	June 8-10
VIRGINIA	Norfolk	June 21-24
WASHINGTON	Everett	June 20-23
WEST VIRGINIA	Clarksburg	June 21-24
WISCONSIN	Superior	June 27-30
WYOMING	Newcastle	June 8-10

Westmoreland

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order to deceive President Johnson and the American people."

Reaction to the program resulted in CBS's own investigation into its procedures and an admission by the network that the documentary was "biased and inaccurate."

Affidavits attesting to Westmoreland's lack of culpability were filed by former Secretary of State Dean Rusk, former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and former Central Intelligence Agency Directors Richard Helms and William Colby.

General Westmoreland has announced that any money recovered from CBS will be donated to the USO, American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund and other groups aiding Vietnam veterans.

"The case could not be going better," he told the General Session audience of more than 3,000 leaders from all echelons of the organization. "My lawyers found 128 falsehoods in the CBS program. The support I have received is absolutely amazing. People come up to me to say, 'Westie, give them hell.' What CBS did to me was a cold-blooded ambush.

"I know that in the national interest this irresponsible journalism must be stopped."

Turning to the defense budget, he quoted Sen. John Tower (Texas) as saying that "a strong defense does not have a strong political constituency." The general said he disputed that remark because "you are the constituency."

He said, "The Department of Defense is a big organization and it has a big budget. It is easy to criticize it and the budget is now under scrutiny."

"I think there is this feeling that under President Kennedy there was a greater balance between defense and social programs," he continued. "However, under President Kennedy and President Eisenhower 45% of the federal budget and 9% of the Gross National Product went to defense, while under President Reagan 28% of the budget and 6.8% of the GNP are going to defense."

Before discussing his suit against CBS, General Westmoreland paid tribute to the late Phelps Jones, VFW National Security and Foreign Affairs Director at the time of his death in December, and Thorne H. (Tip) Marlow, VFW Washington Office Public Affairs Director, when he died in January.

VFW

REUNIONS

AIR FORCE

(Including Army air units prior to 1947)

May

8th AF Historical Society, Florida Chap.—25-27, Ocala, Fla.—Jim Beavers, 4920 Telson Pl., Orlando, FL 32806

June

4th Ferrying Grp. (Nashville & Memphis) 29-30, Nashville, Tenn.—T.L. Clark, 708 Lakeshore Dr., Lebanon, TN 37087
31st Bomb. Sqdn. (H), 5th Bomb. Grp. (Hawaii & South Pacific, WW II)—Marion T. Shepherd, 1132 Sherry Dr., Riverton, WY 82501
89th Troop Carrier Grp. (Bergstrom Field, Austin, Texas, 1942-44)—7-10, Dayton, Ohio—Dave Turner, 120 Tulip Lane, Dayton, OH 45432
436th Sig. Construction Bn. (AVN)—6-7, Branson, Mo.—Joe Mann, 103 W Steele St., Marlow, OK 73055
802d Chemical Co. (AO)—29-20, Parkersburg, W.Va.—Alvie W. Mills, Rt. 2 Box 151, Washington, WV 26181
1250th Sq. B, NAFF & 1st SAC (North Africa, 1944-45)—24-30, San Antonio, Texas—Mrs. William (Skippy) Bakula, 23 Laura Lane, Mount Dora, FL 32757

July

2d Sqdn., 22d Bomb. Grp. (1946-60)—Lloyd L. Hager, 7406 Hobbie Dr., San Antonio, TX 78227
37th Ftr. Sqdn. (WW II) 11-15, Sacramento, Calif. Earlv T. (Bud) Cloyd, 4236 N 34th Pl., Phoenix, AZ 85048
82d Repair Sqdn. (Agra, India) 20-27, Salem, Ore Robert Standley, 447 Garland Way N, Salem, OR 97303
344th Air Svc. Sqdn., 321st Air Svc. Grp.—14, Omaha, Neb.—Keith E. Bee, 650 Gregg Ave., Bridgeville, PA 15017
3130th/7322d Air Police Sqdn. (Chateauroux, France)—20-22, Cape Girardeau, Mo.—Omer S. Pinckney, 119 S Benton, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
6147th Tac. Con. Grp. (Korea)—12-16, Orlando, Fla.—Dick Stanton, 606 Sombrero Rd., Marathon, FL 33050
Mustang Pilots Assn.—18-22, Dayton, Ohio—Frank Grw non, 81 Park St., Wilmington, MA 01887

August

14th Liaison Sqdn. (WW II)—21-26, Denver, Colo.—Warne L. Templin, 3135 E. Phillips Dr., Littleton, CO 80122
395th Signal Co. (AVN)—24-26—Fay Hart, Jr.—1316 Kent St., Sturgis, MI 49081
464th Bomb. Grp. (Italy, WW II)—9-12, Nashville, Tenn.—H Robert Anderson, 4321 Miller Ave., Erie, PA 16509
4080th Strat. Recon. Wing—17-18, Del Rio, Texas Timothy F. Deason, 1910 Ave E, Del Rio, TX 78840
Pampa, Texas, AAF (Mil. & Civ., 1942-45)—9-12, Pampa, Texas—PAAF Assn., POB 2015, Pampa, TX 79065

September

5th and 71st Liaison Sqdns. 21-22, Nashville, Tenn B.H. (Doc) Warren, POB 85, Jackson, AL 36545
11th Bomb. Grp. (H) Assn.—4-9, Hyannis, Mass.—Bob May, POB 637, Seffner, FL 33584
13th Ftr. Command, Sig. HQ & HQ Co.—21-23, St. Louis, Mo.—Thomas G. Gaden, 404 N Irving, Ponca City, OK 74601
14th AF—13-15—Joseph L. Risley, Rt. 3 Box 396, Maple Hill, Grand Marais, MN 55604
38th Bomb. Grp., South Pacific Sqdn.—7-9, Colorado Springs, Colo.—John A. Mutu, 625 Bridger Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80909
66th Airborne Sqdn.—14-16, Oshkosh, Wis.—Edward L. Schwartz, 1008 Jackson St., Oshkosh, WI 54901
87th Svc. Sqdn. (WW II)—20-23, Charleston, S.C.—Joseph J. Grooms, POB 90182, Charleston, SC 29410
317th Troop Carrier Grp., 46th Troop Carrier Sqdn. 15, Columbus, Ohio—Dick Brown, 509 Clay, Carey, Ohio 43316
398th Bomb. Grp. (H)—27-28, Rapid City, SD George R. Hiliard, 7841 Quartermaine Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45236



Reunion columns run throughout the back of the magazine in consecutive order as space permits.

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Parent: "Yes, but he's away at college."

—Quote

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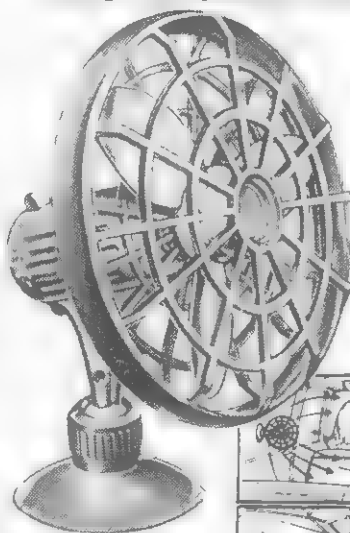
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—President's Task Force on Victim's of Crime, December 1982

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Vets Deserve Best

continued from page 27

from their position of leadership, the President and he must view the world not as they would wish it to be, but as it really is. In my view, the President and Vice President couldn't be more right.

The world is imperfect in a vast number of ways. But it is not imperfect as to the United States of America wanting to avoid war while honor still breathes.

It is not imperfect because our nation does not understand the horror of war or because our nation seeks to impose its will on other nations, for it does not.

The world is not imperfect because we spend vast sums on national defense. In fact, the opposite is true.

Purely and simply, our nation arms itself because that is the only language understood by the aggressors and bullies of the international community.

To such potential adversaries, peace through strength speaks louder than the voices of those who despair at the thought of war.

continued on page 46

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VOD Winner

continued from page 12

Guam. I just watched my best friend die — he was only 20, too young to vote for the people who sent us here, the people who decided his fate.

Amendment 26 granted 18-year-olds the right to vote on July 5, 1971... but it is not over yet.

I am an 18-year-old student. I get up at 5:30 every morning to go to school. After school I work to save money for college, but with inflation I will still have to borrow some. Boys must again register for the draft. Nuclear war could destroy the world if pollution doesn't do it first. The Constitution guarantees our vote, but our future depends on us.

We still have a long way to go.

Clearly, the job of writing new laws will never be over. Putting them into effect takes dedication as well as time.

To the skeletal framework of our Constitution, amendments added muscle; but the heart of the country, its vital force, lies in its people. It is only through exercising our rights that

we develop strength. We have been provided with a government that is of the people and by the people, not just for the people. I think my role, as well as the role of every citizen, is to remember this. Over-indulgence can destroy the heart of a country as well as that of an individual.

As a teenager, I am very conscious of my personal constitution, my physical fitness. As a voter, I believe my role is to exert the same diligence in supporting the Constitution of our country.

All around me I see people going to health spas, watching their cholesterol and jogging with great determination. And I watch them talk about cheating on their income tax, paying off a politician, and not having time to vote.

The Constitution has grown and matured. I think it is up to us, including my own generation, to do the same.

My role may be as small as that of the slave boy, but I will give it the best I have. I can't afford to do less.

We still have such a long way to go.

STAY

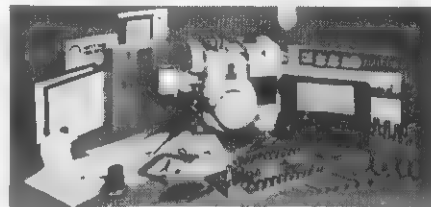
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Yes, you can make \$1000 a month and more with just a hack saw in your spare time.

Will I Get Rich?

No, you will not get rich, but you can make over \$1000 a month in your spare time and have a ball doing it.

I tried all those "Get Rich" gimmicks that are advertised, that never tell you anything until you've sent them your \$25, and then you find out their gimmicks were not for you. Well, I've tried them all and I'm still not rich.

All I ever wanted was something I could do in my spare time with my hands, make a little money and enjoy myself and not have to buy \$3000 worth of tools or merchandise to do it.

Believe It Or Not

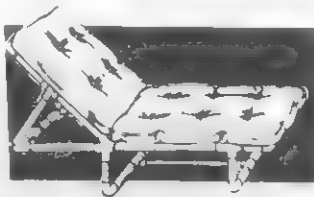
I found the most enjoyable and profitable business working with my hands and the only tools I use are a hack saw and measuring tape. The really nice thing about it is any man, woman or ten-year-old can do it.

What Do I Do?

I make beautiful indoor/outdoor P.V.C. pipe furniture. Such as chairs, lounges, tables, swings, and all kinds of baby furniture out of P.V.C. pipe; even birdhouses and feeders. P.V.C. pipe furniture is the hottest selling furniture on the market today, because it is unique and beautiful and will not rot or rust and it will virtually last a life time.

Profit Unbelievable!

The fantastic part of this business is the profit.



Just go look at some of this furniture in the stores and see some of the unbelievable prices it is selling for.

A chaise lounge that costs \$62.25 in material and three

hours of work is selling for over \$228 in the stores. I can sell my chaise lounge for anything I think my labor is worth. For once, the big manufacturing companies cannot compete with me or you on prices. You will find you will have more orders than you want!

Where can you buy the P.V.C. Pipe?

You can buy the P.V.C. pipe from any local hardware store to start. Plus I will supply you with the names and addresses of cushions and pipe manufacturers who will sell to you wholesale, plus I will supply you with my shop manual and six detailed shop drawings with pictures and measurements of six different designs.

Do you need my shop drawings?

No, you don't need my shop drawings unless you want to save hundreds of hours of trial and error work and thousands of dollars that I had to spend before I finally

found the right design and measurements and tricks to the manufacturing of P.V.C. pipe furniture. I only wish that when I started, I could have bought these shop drawings and I would have gladly paid \$100 for just one of them.

I will pay you!

Yes, I will pay you \$25 for any unique design shop drawing that I can use in my collection and workshop manual.

How do you start?

1) Decide if you like to work with your hands to create things and want to make money.

2) Can you afford \$12.00 for my shop manual and six drawings.

3) Send me your name and address along with your check for \$12.00 to:

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Vets Deserve Best

continued from page 44

No one understands this better than those who have marched into futile battle.

No one understands it better than those peace-loving people in times past who, although keeping to themselves, ignored defense and then could only watch liberty being trampled by unspeakable tyranny.

Undoubtedly, it has been their extreme sorrow to leave a footnote to history that had their nations been militarily prepared to resist that tyranny, the trampling could have been deterred, or as a last resort, repelled by a strong defense.

And so it is, Mr. Commander, that I reaffirm my alliance with the VFW on such matters you and your members know more than most, the truth of which I speak. You have seen war firsthand and you abhor it.

But you know, too, that our country must be militarily alert and militarily strong if it is to deter those who would destroy our way of life, inhibit our dreams of a better tomorrow and who

continued on page 52

451st Bomb. Sqdn. Asn., 322d Bomb. Grp. (M)—21-23, Atlanta, Ga.—James J. Crumbtass, 2014 Shady Grove Dr., Bossier City, LA 71112
463d Svc. Sqdn. (WW II)—14-16, Milford, Iowa—Edward A. Ellis, 321 Clearfield Ave., Norristown, PA 19403
483d Bomb. Grp. (Sterapone, Italy, WW II)—19-23, Greensboro, N.C.—Joseph W. Gawthorp, 702 Rollingwood Dr., Greensboro, NC 27410
485th Bomb. Grp.—28-30, Charlotte, N.C.—Robert S. Deeds, 4643 286th St., Toledo, OH 43611
529th Ftr. Sqdn., 311th Ftr. Grp.—14-16, Oakbrook, Ill.—John G. Wesley, c/o Labelette Co., 1237 Circle, Forest Park, IL 60130
831st Sqdn., 485th Bomb. Grp.—28-30, Charlotte, N.C.—H.P. Woodyard, 3539 Butternut Dr., Lambertville, MI
1035th Signal Corps—7-8, Dayton, Ohio—John Price, 2924 Vale Dr., Kettering, OH 45420
1708th Ferrying Wing Asn.—14-16, San Antonio, Texas—Ernie Davis, 17881 SW 113th Ct., Miami, FL 33157
BAD 2 (Warion, England, WW II)—20-13, Williamsburg, Va.—Dick McClune, 527 Quarterfield Rd., Newport News, VA 23602

ALL BRANCHES

July

American Ex-Prisoners of War—17-21, Seattle, Wash.—Tony Ferrucci, 309 S Cloverdale, D19, Seattle, WA 98108
Ex-Prisoners of War of Stalag Luft 4 & 6—19, Seattle, Wash.—Leonard E. Rose, 8103 E 50th St., Indianapolis, IN 46226
Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Asn.—15-17, Phoenix, Ariz.—Larry Clark, 2312 W Mandalay Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85023

August

CBI Veterans Asn.—4-8, San Antonio, Texas—Ken Ruff, 7303 Carew, Houston, TX 77074
Iceland Veterans Asn.—1-8, Reyjavik, Iceland—Dave Zinkoff, 2101 Walnut St., Apr 1109, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

September

292d JASCO—28-30, Cincinnati, Ohio—Bill Keating, 8507 Old Shepherdsdale Rd., Louisville, KY 40219
Coconut Heade (Christmas Island, Central Pacific, WW II)—Pittsburgh, Pa.—David T. Bunte, 120 Arch Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15202
National Stearman Fly-In—5-9, Galesburg, Ill.—Ted McCullough, 2310 Monmouth Blvd., Galesburg, IL 61401

ARMY

May

36th Div., 142d Inf. Co. D—19-20, Stephenville, Texas—VM Melton, 1306 SW 10th Ave., Mineral Wells, TX 76401
89th Inf. Div., Texas Chapter—19, El Campo, Texas—Bud Denton, 701 Gilchrist, College Station, TX 77840
252d Fort Co. TC (CBI, WW II)—18-20, Conway, Ark.—Van Chapman, POB 61, Searcy, AR 72143
373d FA Bn., Btry. B—3-6, Virginia Beach, Va.—Frank G. Andros, POB 55, Hyde Park, NY 12538
452d QML Unit—25-26—Robert E. Turnbull, c/o Tuckaway Country Club, 6901 W Drexel Ave., Franklin, NJ 08132
456th AAA (AW) Bn.—16-20, Marietta, Ga.—Sam Mobley, 2638 Old Sewell Rd., Marietta, GA 30067
626th TD Bn.—18, Bedford, Mass.—Bruno Bertelli, 20 Newton Ave., Tewksbury, MA 01876
752d ROB, Co. C—3-5, Kansas City, Mo.—R.C. Trimble, POB 752, Newark, OH 43055

June

2d Chemical Mortar Bn.—8-9, Oxford, Ala.—J.Q. Qumby, 84 Sunset Dr., Anniston, AL 36201
84 Signal Bn., Co. B—8-10, Cypress, Texas—Louis H. Schmidt, POB 94, Cypress, TX 77429
4th Inf. Div., 8th Inf. Co. B (WW II)—9, Trenton, N.J.—Al Hofmann, 21 Cannon Dr., Trenton, NJ
8th Div., 1st Inf. Co.—1-16, Webster Grove, Mo.—H.T. Regan, 484 Florence Ave., St. Louis, MO 63119
9th Inf. Div. (WW II)—21-23, Lake Placid, N.Y.—David Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07087
51st Med. Bn. Asn. (WW II)—9-10, Lancaster, Pa.—Wayne H. Lebo, 7 Penrose St., Harrisburg, PA 17109
68th Med. Bgt.—21-24, Oak Brook, Ill.—James T. Swain, 1106 E James St., Streator, IL 61364
78th Inf. Div. Asn.—22-24, Hartford, Conn.—E.C. Cutler, Jr., RR2 Box 68 Jackson Ave., New Windsor, NY 12550
102d Inf. Div.—24 July 1, Bethesda, Md.—Abe Mitchell, 2 McKay Rd., Bethel, CT 06801
135th Med. Bgt. Asn.—30 July 1, Appleton, Wis.—Vance Yost, 1115 Waugoo Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901
164th Inf. Co. I (WW II)—30 July 1, Wahpeton, N.D.—Ira A. Keeney, 521 2nd St. N, Wahpeton, ND 58080
51st Engr. Bvy. Ponton Bn.—8-10, Williamsport, Pa.—William Brink, POB 123, Picture Rocks, PA 17762
666th Transportation Co. (Gal Le Vietnam)—25-26, Denver, Colo.—William H. Wullenschnieder, Rt. 2 Box 30, Edna, KS 67342
749th AAA Gun Bn.—29 July 1, Worcester, Mass.—Alfred DeMattia, POB 417, Sanford, ME 04073
777th Ord. Co.—8-10, Aberdeen, Md.—Carl V. Haines, RD 2 Box 186, Finleyville, PA 15332
791st QM Trk. Co.—22-24, Bismarck, N.D.—Harold Bach, 1436 12th St. W, Dickinson, ND 58601
847th Ord. Depot Co.—22-24, Southern Pines, N.C.—William R. Campbell, POB 728, Sanford, NC 27330
3184th Sig. Svc. Bn. (WW II)—22-24, Milwaukee, Wis.—T.J. McGlynn, 11700 Old Columbia Pike, Apt. 1407, Silver Spring, MD 20904
3409th Ord. MAM Co.—23-24—Robert Quigley, 3520 Shalem Colony Trail, Las Cruces, NM 88005
Southern Airborne Memorial Days—8-10, Corpus Christi, Texas—William J. Stevens, 3902 Willow, Corpus Christi, TX 78411

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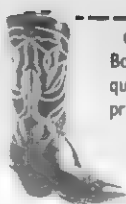
A WORD OF ADVICE: The value of a coin is based on its date, mint mark and condition. We guarantee all our coins to be Original U.S. Mint issue in very fine condition, containing the appropriate signatures, dates and mint marks.

July

3d Armd. Div. Assn.—25-28, New Orleans, La.—3d Armd. Div. Assn., POB 766, Lynn, MA 01903
 6th Armd. Div. Assn. & 77th AAA AW Bn. (WW II)—25-29, Dearborn, Mich.—Ed Reed, POB 5011, Louisville, KY 40205
 8th Armd. Div. Assn.—5-8, Washington, D.C.—Henry B. Rothenberg, 180 N LaSalle St., Room 2101, Chicago, IL 60601
 11th Abn. Div., 472d PA Paraglider Bn.—26-29, Columbus, Ohio—Jullian W. Panek, 3334 Demmler St., McKeesport, PA 15131
 13th Abn. Div. Assn.—25-29, Atlanta, Ga.—Harry H. Pharis, 1315 Hoover Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46260
 XIII Corps Assn.—26-29, Indianapolis, Ind.—John Bitting, 10104 Quinby St., Silver Spring, MD 20901
 14th Armd. Div. Assn.—26-29, Washington, D.C.—Andrew Tierno, 42 Vestal Ave., Binghamton, NY 13903
 30th CA (WW II)—6-8—Vivian Johnson, Rt. 4 Box 414, Richland Center, WI 53581
 35th Div., 137th Inf., Co. H—15, Ottawa, Kans.—H. Brohammer, Rt. 2, Baldwin, KS 66606
 38th Div., 151st Inf., Co. A (WW II)—20-22, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.—Oscar Alt, 2510 Plover Rd., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
 40th Div., 160th Inf., Co. D—26-29, Chicago, Ill.—Archie Johnson, 222 E 3rd St., St. Paul, MN 55119
 45th Div. MP Co. (Korea, 1950-52)—27-29, Canadian, Okla.—Leo K. Williams, 2602 Brookhaven Cir., Denison, TX 75020
 76th Inf. Div.—12-15, Philadelphia, Pa.—Howard Ogden, 704 Chandler St., Philadelphia, PA 19111
 79th Div. Recon Trp.—27-29, Chicago, Ill.—Neal Holtz, 4126 N Olcott Ave., Chicago, IL 60634
 94th Div. Assn.—12-14, Louisville, Ky.—VP Leavel, POB 151, Nagshead, NC 27959
 96th QM Btry.—22, Willmar, Minn.—Carroll E. Jacobson, 1101 Grace Ave., Willmar, MN 56201
 100th Chem. Mortar Bn., Co. B (formerly 506th and 637th CA AAA Bn.)—14, Mooretown, N.J.—Jerry Zuzzio, POB 232, Sea Bright, NJ 07760
 103d Div. (WW II)—19-22, Omaha, Neb.—H.T. Ellsworth, 8240 Moreland Rd., Jerome, MI 49249
 104th Ord. (MM) Co.—28, College Park, Md.—Albert Daniels, 3405 Duke St., College Park, MD 20740
 106th Inf. Div.—12-15, Savannah, Ga.—Jim Wells, POB 89, Augusta, GA 30903
 125th AAA—27-29, Grone City, Ohio—Joseph Bauknecht, 1273 Ramona Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107
 172d Inf. Bgt., Co. F—20-22, Guntersville, Ala.—Leonard G. Hall, 10 Circle G, Orange, TX 77630
 219th Sig. Depot Co. (WW II)—20 22, Laurel, Miss.—James C. Dobson, Rt. 3 Box 422, Ellisville, MS 39437
 —314th Inf. Assn. (WW II)—27-29—Neal Holtz, 4126 N Olcott Ave., Chicago, IL 60634
 339th & 1179th Engr. (WW II)—26-29, Indianapolis, Ind.—Joseph Hofrichter, 1718 Bird Dog Ct., Loveland, OH 45140
 409th Inf. Bgt., Co. B—19-22, Omaha, Neb.—R.M. Laughlin, POB 155, Westfield, NY 14787
 411th AAA Gun Bn. (WW II)—26-29, Nashville, Tenn.—Edgar K. Gusler, 1110 W 3rd St., Marion, IN 46952
 466th AAA Bn., Northeastern Chapter—14—Roy Glover, 324 Carroll Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06602
 501st Pch. Inf. Bgt.—5-7, Nashville, Tenn.—Jesse Tidwell, POB 229, Cookeville, TN 38501
 503d Port Bn., 275th Port Co.—10-12, Reno, Nev.—John W. Stokes, Jr., 7539 Oak Vista St., Houston, TX 77087
 575th AAA AW Bn. (SP)—27-28, Benton Harbor, Mich.—Clarence Eichler, 591 E Glenford Rd., St. Joseph, MI 49085
 591st Engr. Boat Bgt. Assn.—13-15, Burlington, Iowa—Everett Mills, POB 71, Sublette, KS 67877
 628th TD Bn.—13-15, West Middlesex, Pa.—Dale Van Antwerp, 6606 Westchester, Kalamazoo, MI 49002
 726th Amtrac. Bn. (WW II)—12-14, Dayton, Ohio—Bob Priest, 2359 N 23rd St., Lafayette, IN 47904
 741st Tank Bn.—21-22, Seymour, Ind.—Palmer Ude, 214 S 4th St., Seymour, IN 47274
 773d FA Bn.—10-12, Philadelphia, Pa.—Ed Brook, RD 1 Box 144, Canisteo, NY 14823
 785th MP Bn., Co. B—6-8, Rome, Ga.—Carlton F Wood, Rt E3, Buchanan, GA 30113

August

Society of the First Division—22-26, Boston, Mass.—Arthur L. Chaut, 5 Montgomery Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19118
 3d Armd. Div., 32d Armd. Bgt., Co. D—10-12, Manteca, Calif.—Jack W. Downey, 311 Flores Ct., Manteca, CA 95336
 3d Inf., 4th Bn. (Vietnam, 1967-71)—24-26, Washington, D.C.—John Dewing, 5225 E 41st Ave., Anchorage, AK 99508
 6th Div.—2-4, Topeka, Kans.—Charles H. Fowlkes, 821 Monroe, Moberly, MO 65270
 6th Div., 1st Inf., Co. D—25-26, Columbus, Neb.—Lonnne Thavenet, Newman Grove, NE 68768
 9th Armd. Div., MP Platoon—17-19, Bloomfield, Iowa—Ralph (White) Berends, 340 S Dakota Ave., New Richmond, WI 54017
 12th Armd. Div.—15-19, Denver, Colo.—Bob Burns, 6528 W Kenyon Ct., Denver, CO 80235
 21st Avn. Engr. 31 Sept 2 Williamport, Pa.—Calvin E. Eckert, RD 3 Box 316 Dillsburg, PA 17019
 27th AAA Grp., HQ & HQ Btry.—17-19, Lexington, Ky.—David R. Hopewell, 15116 Alaska Rd., Woodbridge, VA 22191
 27th Div., 106th Inf., HQ Co.—11-12, Pana, Ill.—Robert W. Shumer, RD 1 Box 691, Everett, PA 15537
 27th Inf., Co. C (WW II)—17-19, Nashville, Tenn.—Harold E. Haire, POB 51, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233
 34th Gen. Hosp.—4, Green Bay, Wis.—William D. Frank, 418 E Hoover Ave., Appleton, WI 54915
 36th Div. Assn. & Attached Units—30-Sept. 2, San Antonio, Texas—Leonard E. Wilkerson, POB 2049, Malakoff, TX 75148
 44th Div., 64th Engr. (C), Co. A—3-5, Columbus, Ohio—Glenn Young, 4462 Leppert Rd., Rt. 1, Hilliard, OH 43026
 44th Div., 217th FA Bn. (WW II)—3-5, Kokomo, Ind.—Jumour D. Burton, Rt. 1 Box 25, Kempton, IN 46049
 45th Inf. Div., 157th Inf. BCT, 158th FA Bn. (WW II)—8-12, King of Prussia, Pa.—B.A. Finkle, 505 Grenhurst Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 101st Abn. Div. Assn.—15-18, Sioux Falls, S.D.—George M. Rosie, POB 101AB, Parchment, MI 49004.



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104th Inf. Div. — 29 Sept. 3, St. Paul, Minn. — Raymond Schmidt, 1270 W. Larpenteur Ave., Apt. 101, St. Paul, MN 55113
134th Inf. Co. L — 10-11 — Buster Brown, 7201 N 41st, Omaha, NE 68112
214th CA (AA) (Ga. NG, WW II) — 11-12, Gainesville, Ga. — Gene L. Hodges, 2549 Emerald Dr., Jonesboro, GA 30236
282d FA Bn. (WW II) — 4-5, Marietta, Ohio — George T. Chalfant, 108 Michigan Ave., Marietta, OH 45750
315th Inf. Reg. Assn. (WW II) — 31 Sept. 2, Philadelphia, Pa. — Francis G. Ozoka, 144 N 6th St., New Hyde Park, NY 11040
339th Inf. (Rome, Italy, 1944) — 2 5, Hartford, Conn. — Albert N. Beachley, 5413 Broad Run Rd., Jefferson MO 21755
379th AAA (AW) Bn. (WW II) — 3 5, Houston, Texas — Charles N. Smith, 23 N Holmes Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46222
390th AAA AW Bn. (SF) — 1-3, Manhattan, Kans. — Harold Seymour, RR # Box 272, Manhattan, KS 66502
528th QM Svc. Bn., Co. A & 600th QM Base Depot Co. — 17 19, Dubuque, Iowa — Harold (Bing) Miller, 301 N Algona, Dubuque, IA 52001
529th FA Bn. — 10-12, Indianapolis, Ind. — Willis McCarty, RR 2 Box 1, Arcadia, IN 46030
628th Tank Bn. (3/103d Armor, now 1/103d Armor) — 25, Johnstown, Pa. — Reunion Committee, 565 Walters Ave., Johnstown, PA 15804
630th TD Bn. — 17-19, Pittsburgh, Pa. — Alex Spark, 209 Old Hwy 837, Pottsville, PA 15025
674th SAW — 23-25, Indianapolis, Ind. — Clyde C. Hane, 415 W Vine, Toulon, IL 61483
702d Tank Bn. — 16-18, Uniontown, Pa. — Jim Hardy, 31 Fayette St., Dunbar, PA 15431
711th Tank Bn., Co. C — 10-12, Abilene, Kans. — James Shirley, Delphos, KS 67436
712th EOB, Co. C (WW II & Korea) — 6-9, Memphis, Tenn. — Roscoe S. Greenway, 4126 Hillcrest Rd., Richmond, VA 23225
730th Ord. Co. (LM) — 13-14, Nashville, Tenn. — William H. Young, 827 N Anderson, Elwood, IN 46038
742d MP Bn. — 8-11, Kansas City, Mo. — Ova Brown, 7133 Crisp, Raytown, MO
749th Tank Bn. Assn. — 16-19, Washington, D.C. — Jack Morris, 1800 Susquehannock Dr., McLean, VA 22101
760th Tank Bn., Btry. A — 3-5, St. Louis, Mo. — Don Allen, POB 129, Carrollton, IL 62016
811th TD Bn. — 3-5, Terre Haute, Ind. — Allen N. Wythe, 11 Rose Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47803
963d Eng. Maint. Co. (WW II) — 11, Morgantown, W. Va. — James V. Barry, 106 Emerald Ct., Morgantown, WV 26505
3456th Ord. Co. — 24-26, Cleveland, Ohio — Louis Burger, 9892 Madison Rd., Montville OH 44064
SS Blanche E. Signas (Army and Merchant Marines, WW II) — 30-Sept. 1, Lincoln, Neb. — E. Diane Knoedler Muller, 312 E Hermosa, Tempe, AZ 85282

September

1st Arm. Div. — 6-9, Louisville, Ky — 1st Arm. Div. Assn., POB 5675, Anderson, SC 29623
1st Arm. Div., 1st MTB, Co. C (Test City, N Ft. Hood, Texas, 1961) — 14-16, Wisconsin Dells, Wis. — Richard L. McNew, 317 N Hawley, Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53213

Staum Visits

continued from page 33

duction lines, including those for the Kfir fighter aircraft, a remotely piloted vehicle and the Westwind executive jet.

The general headquarters of the IDF in Tel Aviv was the next stop for the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief and a session with the IDF spokesman. Here the tremendous complexities of the regional situation were discussed, as well as the less publicized but numerous internal conflicts in Arab states, the large USSR assistance program in Syria and, again, the question of Israel's qualitative advantage in the face of foreign military sales.

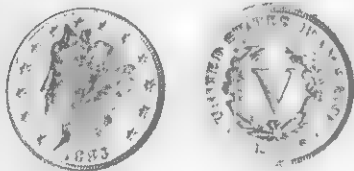
"We saw the sedentary life of a disabled veteran would certainly shorten his lifespan, so we looked at a system in Finland and adapted it to our situation," said the director of the Beit Halochem Disabled Veterans Center in north Tel Aviv, as he led Staum on a two-hour tour of the large and practical facility. Those with a disability of 20% and higher are eligible to join the sports oriented center along with their family. The fees for joining the Beit

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Inseams 27-28 29 30-31 32 33-34		GREY	P			
		BLUE	Q			
		TAN	R			
		NAVY	B			
		BLACK	E			
		GREEN	S			

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77Z-QZE

Guarantee If upon receipt I do not choose to wear the slacks, I may return them within 30 days for a full refund of every penny I paid you

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Medium Width

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K	Bone Loafer			
H	Black Loafer			
P	White Loafer			
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77A-478

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The impressive Department of Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University provided Staum with his final view on the Middle East situation. The great instability in the area; that U.S. aid to Israel is deeply appreciated and needed; graphical evidence that some moderate Arab states trust Israel more than other supposed allied states and that Israel needs an Arab partner to assist in peace negotiations were emphasized.

Following the trip, Staum sent a formal report to the National Council of Administration and the VFW National Security Committee. He said, "It's one thing to read about the situation in that part of the world but quite another to see it and hear about it from the perspective of some of the principals. As one of our organization's principal interests, we cannot intelligently comment on national security and foreign affairs issues using hearsay or unobjective reports as the basis. We learned things on this trip that to my knowledge have not been generally reported."

NFW

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1st Cav. Div., 7th Cav. Bgt., Hvy. Mortar Co. (Japan, 1949-Korea, 1950) 1-3, Peoria, Ill.—Jack L. Couch, 5144 15th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55417.

1st Sig. Bn.—2, Columbus, Ohio—George Hands, 5348 Trilum Ct., Columbus, OH 43230.

Society of the Third Division -5-8, St. Louis, Mo.—Don Maher, 4129 Nebraska, St. Louis, MO 63118.

3rd Inf. Bgt.—15-16—Jake R. Klotzbecher, 186B W Wentworth Ave., West St. Paul, MN 55118.

3d Ord. Co. (MM) (WW II)—7-9, Madison, Wis.—Elmer Race, Rt 2 Box 139A, Peshtigo, WI 54157.

5th Inf. Div.—1-3, Milwaukee, Wis.—John H. Pfau, 170 Evergreen, Elmhurst, IL 60126.

6th AAA Grp.—12-16—Harold E. Naylor, 789 State St., Wood River, IL 62095.

7th FA Assn.—28-29, Chichester, Mass.—Louis DeLong, 544 State St., Granby, MA 01033.

8th Div., 28th Inf., Co. G—7-9, Natchez, Miss.—Joseph Chadwick, Jr., 1300 Kizer Ct., Greensboro, NC 27405.

10th Mtn. Div. Assn., Midwest Chapter (WW II)—6-9, Covington, Ky.—Eugene Baker, 15W761 Butterfield Rd., Elmhurst, IL 60126.

10th Mtn Div., New England Chapter—7-9, Sunapee, N.H.—Hal Richards, RFD 1 Box 79H, Center Harbor, NH 03226.

11th Arm. Div., 55th Arm. Inf. Bn., Co. B—14 16, Des Moines, Iowa—Gene Foster, 1401 17th Ave., Eldora, IA 50627.

15th & 17th Cav. Recon. Grps.—7-10, Huntsville, Ala.—Lee Grubbs, 1126 Hillwood Dr SE, Huntsville, AL 35803.

19th Engr. (C) (WW II)—5-8, Santa Rosa, Calif.—Ernest Mangiantini, 151 Newcomb, Sonoma, CA 95476.

19th Tank Bn.—14-16, Ligonier, Pa.—John Mogus, 4999 Orr Rd., Murrysville, PA 15668.

21st Ord. MM Co. (WW II)—1-3, Milwaukee, Wis.—Eugene G Boeck, 1520 Woodside Lane, Elm Grove, WI 53122.

26th Div.—20-29, Europe—Elwyn Landstrom, 12 Shirley Ave., Millbury, MA 01527.

29th Div., 110th FA, Btry. A (WW II)—15, Pikesville, Md.—Michael (Hank) Crawford, 2030 Flintshire Rd., Baltimore, MD 21237.

32d Div., 128th Inf., Svc. Co.—22, Neillville, Wis.—Tom Flynn, c/o Dwayne Felser, POB 125, Neillville, WI 54456.

38th Combat Engr. Bgt.—14-16, Canton, Ohio—Dwight H. Netzi, 1237 Lincoln Way E, Massillon, OH 44646.

43d Div., 172d Inf., Co. E—29, Hummelstown, Pa.—Elmer E. Nisley, 13 W Main St., Hummelstown, PA 17036.

52d Sta. Hoop. Lancaster, Pa.—Lillian M. Salamon, 6962 Milbrook Park Dr., Baltimore, MD 21215.

56th FA Bn.—14-16, Columbia, S.C.—Jack Martin, RFD 1 Box 339B, Contoocook, NH 03229.

65th Inf. Div.—13-15, Hattiesburg, Miss.—Fred J. Cassata, 123 Dorchester Rd., Buffalo, NY 14213.

69th Div. Recon. Trp.—14-16, York, Pa.—Harold E. Stambaugh, 52 S. Ducke St., York, PA 17401.

70th Tank Bn. Assn.—13-15, Monroeville, Pa.—Charles Myers, 3208 Lake Ave., Baltimore, MD 21213.

81st Div., 323d Inf. Bgt., Co. B—20 22, Mountain Home, Ark.—William Dean Floyd, Rt. 1 Box 22D, Melbourne, AR 72556.

85th Inf. Div. Sig. Co.—Nelson Treadway, 1098 Long Cove Rd., Gales Ferry, CT 06335.

88th Inf. Div. Assn.—San Diego, Calif.—Peter J. Montagnoli, 605 Starfire Ct., Las Vegas, NV 89107.

91st Inf. Div., 347th FA Bn., Btry. C—7-10, Branson, Mo.—Edward P. Kowahl, 2911 Cleveland St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418.

91st Rcn. Sqdn.—16, Merrillville, Ind.—John Kovack, 6137 Conn St., Merrillville, IN 46410.

100th Inf. Div.—Europe—Frank G. Andors, POB 55, Hyde Park, NY 12538.

102d AAA Bn. AW (A/T)—7-9, Charlestown, W. Va.—Howard V. Zeh, 981 North Forest Rd., Buffalo, NY 14221.

111th Inf.—10-15, Indiantown Gap, Pa.—Robert B. Riethmiller, 443 Kittanning Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15215.

122d Sig. Radio Intel. Co.—7-9, San Antonio, Texas—Nelson Arnold, 2106 E North, Victoria, TX 77901.

129th Inf., 2d Bn.—5-7, Rockford, Ill.—Lee Augustine, 3219 N. Lawndale Ave., Chicago, IL 60618.

168th Inf. (Iowa NG), Co. E (WW II)—22-23, Shenandoah, Iowa—Vincent (Pete) Connors, POB 735, Sidney, Iowa 51552.

198th CA (AA) Assn.—16, Wilmington, Del.—Robert E. Forster, 2511 Bryan Dr., Heritage Park, Wilmington, DE 19808.

202d CA (AA) Bgt.—13-16, Bremerton, Wash.—Roger S. McCabe, 7400 Edgemere Blvd., El Paso, TX 79925.

203d CAAA—15-16, Carthage, Mo.—Lloyd Johnson, POB 10, Carthage, MO 64836.

226th Searchlight Bn., Btry. A—13-16, Nashville, Tenn.—James E. McCrary, 132 Winwood Dr., Lebanon, TN 37087.

243d CA, Btry. D (WW II)—22, Cranston, R.I.—Charles E. Brothers, 48 Jastram St., Providence, RI 02908.

246th Engr. C Bn.—21-22, Westland, Mich.—John Lawrence, 30110 Westfield, Livonia, MI 48150.

247th FA Bn. Svc. Btry.—28-29, Indianapolis, Ind.—Melvin K. Sandy, Rt. 2 Box 81, Stephens City, VA 22665.

301st Sig. Opns. Bn. (WW II)—7-9, Albany, NY—Orrin J. Barr, 137 Murray Ave., Delmar, NY 12054.

303d FA Bn.—28-30, King of Prussia, Pa.—J.W. Redding, 12017 Shirestone Lane, Dallas, TX 75234.

339th Svc. Sqdn.—28 30, Niagara Falls, N.Y.—Stanley J. Stachowski, 2030 Clinton St., Buffalo, NY 14206.

342d Ord. Depot Co.—7-9, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Nevin Woodside, 152 Spring Grove Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

344th Ord. Depot Co.—19-22, Nashville, Tenn.—Milton Reed, 4360 Hoover St., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

353d Inf., Co. L—20-23, Cedar Rapids, Iowa—Delbert T. Hysell, 725 S 10th Ave., Washington, IA 52353.

390th & 413th Sig. Co. Assn. (WW II)—7-9, Huron, Ohio—Leonard A. Wiktor, 703 Mayfair Blvd., Toledo, OH 43612.

460th AAA AW Sep. Bn.—15-17, Delton, Mich.—Larry Polston, POB 124, Delton, MI 49046.

472d AAA Bn.—14-16, Bloomington, Ill.—Edwin A. Kwait, 838 Victory Lane, Justice, IL 60458.

534th AA, Btry. B—7-8, Sedalia, Mo.—Verle Craven, 405 N. Main, Erie, KS 66733.

565th AAA AW Bn. (WW II)—7-9, Chattanooga, Tenn.—S.B. Thomas, 4717 Aloha, Memphis, TN 38118.

605th TD Bn.—1-3, Findlay, Ohio—Lawrence N. Montgomery, 120 E 1st Ave., Plainwell, MI 49080.

622d Engr. Base Equip. Co. (WW II)—14-16, Niagara Falls, N.Y.—Ernest F. Rode, 904 Tropical Ln., Key Largo, FL 33037.

713th MP Bn.—15, Hyde Park, N.Y.—Leon A. Frost, 3 Watson

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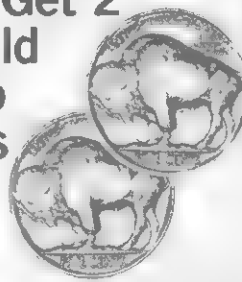
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718th ROB (WW II)—20-23, Ft. Mitchell, Ky.—R.E. Run
steen, 12620 W Dodge Rd., Omaha, NE 68154
722d ROB MRSV—13-16, Ft. Mitchell, Ky.—Robert B. Seeley,
527 Gaines St., Elmira, NY 14904
743d ROB—11-13, Owensboro, Ky.—Charles Tedrowe, 307
Sheridan Rd., Evansville, IN 47710
755th Railway Shop Bn.—14-16, Bucyrus, Ohio—Eugene J.
Perry, Sr., 6093 Leetonia Rd., Leetonia, OH 44431
773d TD Bn. Assn.—18-20, Indianapolis, Ind.—Edward H.
McClelland, 4384 W 182d St., Cleveland, OH 44135
791st AAA Bn.—14-16, Niagara Falls, Ontario—Richard
Brown, 107 Heath St., Buffalo, NY
795th AAA Bn.—Philadelphia, Pa.—Robert Lavelle, 506 Stark
St., Moosic, PA 18507
809th TD Bn.—1, Warwick, R.I.—Walter Sroka, Sr., Rt. 117,
RR 5 Box 4360, Coventry, RI 02816
820th TD Bn.—28-29, Traverse City, Mich.—Felix Pajas,
6458 Fenton, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
899th TD Bn.—7-9, Mountain Home, Ark.—Ivan M. Krapac,
Rt. 9 Box 503 Slick Rock Rd., Mountain Home, AR 72653
900th Ord. Co. (HAM)—14-16, Columbus, Ohio—William L.
Deitrick, 234 S Roys Ave., Columbus, OH 43204
993d Engr. Treadway Bridge Co.—14016, Manhattan, Kans.
—J.J. Vacek, 910 Wildcat Ridge, Manhattan, KS 66502
3527th MAM Co.—14-16, Algona, Iowa—George McVay, 706
N Main St., Algona, IA 50511

MARINE

June

2d Marine Div. Assn., Calif. Chapter—7-10, Santa Rosa,
Calif.—Vic Shutter, 331 S Dearing, Fresno, CA 93702
4th Marine Div. Assn.—26-30, Portland, Me.—Roy Earle
POB 1984, Portland, ME 04104
4th Marine Div., 25th Bgt., 1st Bn., Co. A—Bruce Benway,
707 S Washington, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

July

3d Marine Div. Assn.—18-22, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Ben Byrer,
RR 1 Box 381, Valencia, PA 16059
6th Marine Div., Brig Det.—Leonard W. Marshall, Star Rt
Box 82, Guild, TN 37340

August

5th & 14th Def. Bns., 5th & 14th AAA Bns., 290, 290-A,
290-B & 3d Barrage Balloon Sqdn. (WW II)—2-4, Jackson-
ville, N.C.—Hiram Quillen, Rt. 6 Box 194, Guntersville, AL
35976

September

2d Marine Div., 2d Motor Trans. Bn., Co. B (WW II)—14-
16, Kansas City, Mo.—Jack Petrie, 11409 Glen Arbor Terr.,
Kansas City, MO 64114
Defenders of Wake Island—12-15, Des Moines, Iowa—
William E. McFall, 1407 Southlawn Dr., Des Moines, IA 50315

NAVY

May

109th NCB (WW II)—19-20, Wilmington, N.C.—Chris Brown-
ing, USS Mustin and USS Hornet (CV8) Survivors picked up by
Mustin Crew—17-21, San Jose, Calif.—Leo T. Howard, 2271
Westmoreland Dr., San Jose, CA 95124
USS Sevier (APA233)—4-5, Charleston, S.C.—J.H. Kester
son, 1027 Church St., Ventura, CA 93001
USS Belleau Wood (CVL24)—19-20, Binghamton, N.Y.—
Vern Gillett, 48 George St., Binghamton, NY 13904
106 Shaftesbury Lane, Summerville, SC 29483
USS St. Louis (CL49)—25-28, San Diego, Calif.—Reunion
HQ, 1010 2d Ave., Ste 1900, San Diego, CA 92101
USS Trenton (CL11)—8-10, St. Petersburg, Fla.—John
Mauldin, 533 Rusmore St., Orange Park, FL 32073

June

79th NCB—22-24, Las Gatos, Calif.—Warren Lewis, 20401
Via Santa Teresa, San Jose, CA 95120
Attack Sqdn. 35—29 July 1, NAS Oceana, Va.—Attack Sqdn
35, Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia Beach, VA 23460
Landing Craft Control—15-16, Chicago, Ill.—Stan Kaens,
POB 265, Evansville, MN 56326
Seabee Veterans of America—1-2, Alexandria, La.—Cecil
N. Gould, POB 190, Forest Hill, LA 71430
USS Cleveland (CL55) Div.—Chattanooga, Tenn.—Ray-
mond L. Byrd, 106 Brookman St., Narrows, VA 24124
USS Cowpens—20-24, Cowpens, S.C.—Mrs. W. Bearybury,
POB 10, Cowpens, SC 29330
USS Enterprise (CV6)—8-9, Portland, Ore.—25, San Diego,
Calif.—James Barnhill, 6633 Briley Dr., Ft. Worth, TX 76118.
USS LaGrange (APA124)—New York, N.Y.—Fred G. Camp,
20 Laurel St., Garden City, NY 11530
USS LCSL 14—30, Detroit, Mich.—Frank Kornay, 3976
Cornell St., Dearborn, MI 48125
USS LST 655 (WW II)—13-15—Adrian Westlund, Ward
Town Rd., Perryburg, NY 14129
USS McNulty (DE581)—27-30, Utica, N.Y.—Joseph T.
Nowak, 1480 Ney Ave., Utica, NY 13502
USS PC 470—1-3, Berrien Springs, Mich.—Woodrow B.
McGowan, 16 E Floral Ave., Pleasantville, NJ 08432
USS Princeton, VI Div.—28-30, Pensacola, Fla.—Tex Trum-
ble, POB 952, Vidor, TX 77662
USS Sabine (AO25)—20-24 —Ray Yocum, 630 S 81st St.,
Kansas City, KS 66111

July

7th NCB—13-15, Sunnyvale, Calif.—Michael Hennessey, 52
Beach Ave., Pennsville, NJ 08070.
MILPHAP TEAM 4, ADV TM 19 (Quang Tri, Vietnam, Oct.
1968-Oct. 1969)—21-23, San Francisco, Calif.—Al Elder, 1732
Liberty St., El Cerrito, CA 94530
Naval Weather Service Assn.—12-14, Champaign, Ill.—PJ
O'Brien, 51 Cherney Ave., Rantoul, IL 61866

PBR Mobile Base II (Tan An, Vietnam, Nov. 1969-Dec. 1970)—21-23, San Francisco, Calif.—Doc Elder, 1732 Liberty St., El Cerrito, CA 94530.

SLCU 36 Boat Pool Baker—27-28, Daytona Beach, Fla.—Donald A. Brown, 1008 Mitchell, Irving, TX 75060.
—USS Cor-Caroli (AK91)—27-29, Mooresville, Ind.—Vernon Kimmel, 681 N Indiana St., Mooresville, IN 46158.

USS Cushing (DD376/DD797)—12-16, Chicago, Ill.—Don Henning, POB 73, Wellington, NV 80444.

USS Enterprise (CV6)—27-29, Rapid City, S.D.—James Barnhill, 6633 Briley Dr., Ft. Worth, TX 76118.

USS Henley (DD391)—20-22, Gatlinburg, Tenn.—Roy E. Anglen, POB 3, Hume, IL 61932.

USS LST 681—13-16, Nassau, Bahamas—Jack H. Torres, 762 NW 188 Dr., Miami, FL 33169.

USS Norton Sound (AV11/AVM1)—18-22, Port Hueneme, Calif.—USS Norton Sound Assn., POB 487, Port Hueneme, CA 93041.

USS Petter (DD588)—26-29, Englewood, Ohio—Ray Jessup, 1040 Wayne Ave., Greenville, OH 45331.

USS Robert K. Huntington (DD781)—12-16, Chicago, Ill.—Joseph E. Sopko, 25 Swathmore Bldg., Briarcrest Apts., Hershey, PA 17033.

USS Sallisbury Sound (AV18)—6-8, Pensacola, Fla.—Don Wade, 560 Campbell Hill, Marietta, GA 30060.

August

66th NCB & 1022d Det. (WW II)—29-Sept. 1, Vicksburg, Miss.—W.M. Howard, 2848 Country Green Rd., Memphis, TN 38134.

84th NCB—8-10, Dayton, Ohio—Harry Wujcik, Shadowbrook Lot 84, 7610 Ellenton-Gillette Rd., Palmetto, FL 33561.

116th NCB—9-11, St. Paul, Minn.—Carl J. Hollanitsch, 181 W Maryland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55117.

Destroyer Escort Sailors Assn.—8-10, Houston, Texas—Jack O. Collins, POB 67, Oviedo, FL 32765.

USS Albert W. Grant (DD648)(WW II)—Providence, R.I.—Nick DeMarco, 303 Vine St., Charleston, WV 25302.

USS Asheville (PG21)—Walter Ashe, 40 Shorewood Dr., Asheville, NC 28804.

USS Bayfield (APA33)—12-18, San Francisco, Calif.—M.G. Wamsley, 1902 Filbert St., San Francisco, CA 94123.

USS Beale (DD471/DDE471)—11-12, Ames, Iowa—Grover Walker, 115 Anderson, Jewell, IA 50130.

USS Callaway (APA35)—7-9, Mystic, Conn.—Wallace E. Shipp, 5319 Manning Pl. NW, Washington, D.C. 20016.

USS Edison (DD439)(WW II)—10-12, Harrisburg, Pa.—Larry Whetstone, 8083 Haviland Dr., Linden, MI 48451.

USS Elizabeth C. Stanton (AP69)-USS Clay (APA39) Assn.—31-Sept. 2, Knoxville, Tenn.—Sherman O. Dickson, 802 Christine St., Houston, TX 77017.

USS Enterprise (CV6)—18-19, Plymouth, Ind.—James Barnhill, 6633 Briley Dr., Ft. Worth, TX 76118.

USS Frazier (DD607)—29-Sept. 2, Seattle, Wash.—Loren Troxel, 20236 23d Pl. NW, Seattle, WA 98177.

USS Fulton (AS11)—17-19, New London, Conn.—Gordon Van Gronigan, 102 3d S, Dakota City, IA 50529.

USS Granville (APA171)—31-Sept. 2—Robert P. Blanding, 4559 Shawn Ct. NE, Salem, OR 97305.

USS Greenling (SS213)—29-Sept. 2, Chicago, Ill.—George Hinda, Jr., 172 W Middlesex Dr., Carlisle, PA 17013.

USS Guavina (SS362)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—Sal Reyna, 5531 Merrimac, Dallas, TX 75206.

USS Gurnard (SS254)—29-Sept., Chicago, Ill.—A.W. (Bill) Braun, Rt. 2, St. Joseph, MN 56374.

USS Hardhead (SS365)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—James Anderson, 3121 W Lakefield Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53215.

USS Jallao (SS368)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—Harry Guseking, 655 Westchester, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

USS Kraken (SS370)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—James L. Watts, Rt. 3 Box 195, Nashville, IL 62263.

USS Lamprey (SS372)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—Donald H. Warren, RR 15 Box 308, Maxville, FL 32234.

USS LST 529—13, Kalamazoo, Mich.—Kenneth MacKay, 218 S Main St., Pearl River, NY 10965.

USS Macabi (SS375)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—James Manning, Rt. 4 Box 319, Crivitz, WI 54114.

USS Mattaponi (AO41)—3-5—Joe Heines, 837 Bowline Dr., Forked River, NJ 08731.

USS Menhaden (SS377)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—Richard Kendig, 600 E Hill St., Garrett, IN 46738.

USS Mero (SS378)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—Robert L. Hooper, 9134 Fox Lane, Two Rivers, WI 54241.

USS Neahanic (AO71)—2-4, Big Spring, Texas—Morris E. Robertson, 708 Tulane, Big Spring, TX 79720.

USS Peto (SS265)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—Robert M. McCoy, 12524 Ave. V10, Pearlblossom, CA 93553.

USS Pogy (SS274)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—Robert B. Fleet, Rt. 1 Box 377, Mechanicsville, VA 23111.

USS President Jackson—7, Memphis, Tenn.—James A. Johnson, 1835 E Main St., El Cajon, CA 92021.

USS Puffer (SS288)—24-25, Manitowoc, Wis.—John L. Perro, 14 Bonsilene St., Woodmont, CT 06460.

USS Raymond (DE341)—10-11, Lancaster, Pa.—Louis J. St. John, Rt. 1 Box 190, Sherman, NY 14781.

USS Sederstrom (DE31)—7-10, Houston, Texas—Milton R. Lentz, 800 4th Ave. NE, Waseca, MN 56093.

USS Snapper—29-Sept. 2, Chicago, Ill.—Eric H. Swenson, POB 491, Pleasanton, CA 94566-0049.

USS Snapper—29-Sept. 2, Chicago, Ill.—Eric H. Swenson, POB 491, Pleasanton, CA 94566-0049.

September

5th NCB (WW II)—20-22, Minneapolis, Minn.—Laurence Terry, 5307 Maryman Rd., Louisville, KY 40258.

25th NCB (WW II)—6-10, Tulsa, Okla.—George D. Shaw, 6158 Graceland Circle, Morrow, GA 30260.

36th Engr. Bgt., Co. D—13-15, Atlantic City, N.J.—Harry Moran, 3042 Brentwood Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15227.

69th NCB—6-8, Duluth, Minn.—Jack Maurin, Rt. 3 Box 7, Fergus Falls, MN 56537.

60th NCB Assn.—1-3, St. Louis, Mo.—Clarence Hemmer, 10728 St. Francis Lane, St. Ann, MO 63074.

68th NCB—13-16, Philadelphia, Pa.—Andrew J. Levich, 97 Squawbrook Rd., N. Haledon, NJ 07068.

LCI Flotilla 24—20-23, San Diego, Calif.—John P. Miglorie, 5649 36th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126.

Lion Four—13-15, Rochester, Minn.—Ruben Stahl, 1621 Ill. SW, Huron, SD 57350.

Naval Fire Fighters—20-22, San Antonio, Texas—Evan



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continued from page 46

would undermine the spirit of independence and freedom that is the very foundation of the American nation.

On the issue of a strong and alert America; on the issue of a vigilant American military presence at home and abroad; on the issue of sacrifice — if sacrifice we must — to keep America as the bulwark of freedom-loving countries everywhere, the VFW has spoken eloquently and without reservation.

Your voices and your convictions are very clear. I hear those voices and I share those convictions.

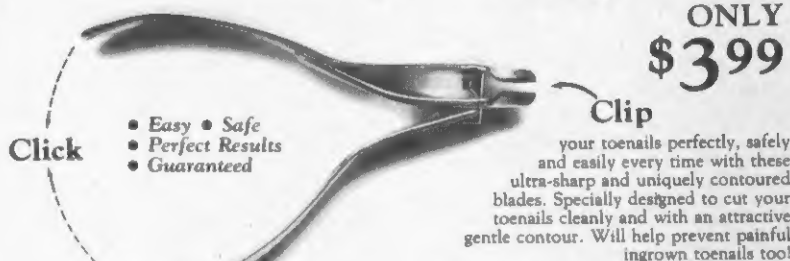
That such a voice and such a conviction would honor me, by the presentation of your annual Congressional Award, is praise in the extreme, for which I am deeply appreciative. And of course, it goes without saying that I have never been more proud of my long-time membership in the VFW than I am on this very special night.

We all agree with the words of Veterans Administrator Harry N. Walters: "America is Number One—Thanks to Our Veterans."

VFW

Ellison, 328 Sweetbriar, Pittsburgh, PA 15211
USS Bunker Hill (CV17)—28-20, Chicago, Ill.—Walter R. Braun, 3104 N Monticello, Chicago, IL 60618.
USS Callaghan (DD793) Survivors—26-29—Leo Jarboe, 719 Crawford St., Oxon Hill, MD 20745.
USS Cincinnati (CL6)—26-29—Mary Ferguson, 1728 N Garland Ave., Youngstown, OH 44505.
USS Card (CVE11)—SASE—Joe Macchia, Rt. 3 Box 3315, Melrose, FL 32666.
USS Concord (CL10)—19-22—H.G. Himes, Rt. 1 Box 381, Gainesville, VA 22065.
USS Edgar G. Chase (DE16)—13-15, Mystic, Conn.—Elmo Allen, 5125 Old Canton Rd. Unit 205, Jackson, MS 39211.
USS Fanning (DD385)—14, Kansas City, Mo.—Fred Winger, 712 Hewlett St., Bakersfield, CA 93309.
USS Helm (DD388)—23-27, Philadelphia, Pa.—John McElroy, 609 6th Ave., Pocomo, PA 19033.
USS Holly (YN14/AN19) (Pacific, WW II)—15-16, Guilford, Conn.—Bud Waligum, 1731 Long Hill Rd., Guilford, CT 06437.
USS Honolulu (CL48)—8-10, Essington, Pa.—William J. Turner, 610 Sharpless Rd., Springfield, PA 19064.
USS Houston (CASO/CL81)—10-16, Buffalo, N.Y.—H.M. Shafman, 921 Florence Ave., Galesburg, IL 61401.
USS Indiana (BB38)—21-23, Southern Pines, N.C.—Tom Ruff, 301 Indian River Dr., Palm Bay, FL 32905.
USS Lindsey (DM32)—21-24, Memphis, Tenn.—J.L. Arrington, Rt. 10 Box 361-H, Charlotte, NC 28213.
USS LST 616—21-23, Dayton, Ohio—James E. DeJarnette, 6085 Decker Rd., Franklin, OH 45005.
USS LST 640—28-29, Hershey, Pa.—Leon Kline, 2065 Weaver Rd., Lebanon, PA 17042.
USS Manning (DE199)—26-20, Buffalo, N.Y.—Denzel J. Skervin, 1921 Lincoln St., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54484.
USS Maryland (BB46)—19-22, North Little Rock, Ark.—Tony Belotti, 2111 Steven Dr., Little Rock, AR 72205.
USS Patterson (DD392)—13-15, Clarksville, Tenn.—Jack N. Dowlen, Rt. 3 Box 161, Clarksville, TN 37043.
USS Phelps (DD360)—20-23, San Francisco, Calif.—Harold Placette, 3336 Roanoke, Port Arthur, TX 77642.
USS Pittsburgh (CA72)—12, Williamsburg, Va.—J.C. Ayers, POB 74, Wildwood, GA 30757.
USS Robinson (DD562) (WW II)—7-9, St. Louis, Mo.—Don Fahberg, 3661 41st St., Apt. 12, Moline, IL 61265.
USS Rockwell (APA230)—25-27—James W. Robbins, 219 W 95th St., Bloomington, MN 55420.
USS Saratoga (CV3)—14-16, Seattle, Wash.—PR. (Tony) Tbnelli, 6382 Cantiles Ave., Cypress, CA 90630.
USS Thornhill (DE195)—7-9, Tannersville, Pa.—Henry Cetkowski, Rt. 2 Box 531, Titusville, NJ 08560.
USS Vincennes (CL64)—28-30, Newport, R.I.—James R. Thomas, 34 Lakeview Ave., Holbrook, MA 02343.
VPB-34—15-16, Wagoner, Okla.—Charles Landon, POB 189, Wagoner, OK 74477.
VP/VPB-54 (1942-45)—24-29, Danvers, Mass.—R.A. (Dick) Teubert, 20482 Running Spring Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92646.
VT-61 (USS Waup)—21-23, San Diego, Calif.—Dick Loso, 1998 Seaview Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06610.

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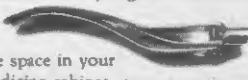
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trol have been achieved over the past three years, it would not be concluded that all savings possibilities have been exhausted. . . The Grace Commission report contains literally hundreds of suggestions. . . which, after further analysis and refinement, can be expected to generate substantial savings proposals for next year's budget.

"In particular. . . eight budget categories illustrate the opportunities for significant future savings beyond the limited measure proposed in the 1985 budget. . . They illustrate both the major opportunities as well as the kind of hard choices which will face the Administration and Congress next year in what must be a full throttle effort to close the budget gap, if economic recovery is to be sustained.

"... The Grace Commission findings as well as those by many medical economists, suggest that the nation's health care commitments to its veterans can be met at substantially less cost over the longer run if the current policy framework is adjusted. Such structural reform options include greater internal economic incentives, wider use of excess facilities in the private health care system, tighter implementation of the 'inability to defray' standard, firmer service-connected disability requirements, and cost-sharing and third-party cost recovery mechanisms. The Administration will be studying these options intensively within the coming years, with a view to finding ways to meet existing veterans health care commitments at significantly lower cost in the years ahead. . ."

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Stockman's words represent a fine example of unintelligible bureaucratic jargon. I would suggest that you invite him to appear before this Committee and explain just what he has in mind for veterans.

We know Mr. Stockman, who has never been guilty of defending veterans' benefits, is speaking of "mainstreaming" veterans' health care to bring relief to private hospitals which were overbuilt and overbedded for personal financial gain rather than replace or modernize aged VA medical centers.

We know Mr. Stockman is speaking of more stringent requirements for veterans who sign the "paupers oath" indicating they cannot afford to pay for care in the private sector.

We know Mr. Stockman is speaking of third party reimbursement wherein

insurance companies would be required to pay for a veteran's care in VA facilities if he or she has some form of health insurance.

We do not know what Mr. Stockman means by "firmer service-connected disability requirements," but we do know it does not augur well at all for veterans who have become disabled serving our nation in the Armed Forces. This Committee has in years past considered and, with good cause, rejected similar proposals. The fact they are being given serious consideration by the President's Office of Management and Budget means that we must be evervigilant.

When this session of Congress convened, Mr. Chairman, I wrote to every member with respect to cost-of-living increases for federal civilian and Armed Forces retirees. My action was prompted by magazine and newspaper articles playing up the cost of these COLAs, a provision in the House passed Reconciliation Act delaying COLA for these retirees until January, 1985, and a like provision in the President's proposed budget. I believe these retirees who have rendered a very special service have already given more than their fair share under two previous budget reconciliation acts.

Mr. Chairman, the leadership of the VFW and many of our members are aware that highly respected economists within the government and private sector believe that unless federal deficits are curbed soon, they pose a major threat to the economic well-being of us all in the not too distant future. The economic recovery we have been enjoying under the Reagan Administration may be showing signs of faltering. Last month came a warning of recession, something none of us want.

Treasury Secretary Donald Regan was quoted in the Wall Street Journal as asserting that another recession could occur if "proper" fiscal and monetary policies are not put into effect. The same article stated that Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volker also warned of a recession if the federal deficit isn't cut.

You will recall, Mr. Chairman, that last year the VFW was out front in publicly supporting a six-month delay in COLA for veterans' entitlements provided the beneficiaries of all other federally-funded entitlements were required to make the same sacrifice. We did this to help reduce the deficit and maintain the basic integrity of our veterans' bene-

fits. If further budget savings must be made, let it be by wholly realistic priorities and even-handedly.

The budget priorities of the VFW are just exactly what you should expect them to be. National defense must always come first for if we lose our freedom, there will be no veterans' programs, no social welfare programs, only poverty and misery.

Next come our veterans' programs and hospital and medical care system to care for those who have insured our precious freedom. Everything else comes next. No one has said it better than the late American economist, Henry George: "The ideal social state is not that in which each gets an equal amount of wealth, but in which each gets in proportion to his contribution."

Preserving veterans' preference in federal employment is a continuing priority goal of the VFW. Permit me to thank you publicly, Mr. Chairman, [Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery] for having risen on the floor of the House of Representatives when the proposed Equal Rights Amendment was brought up and so forcefully reminding your colleagues that veterans' preference has been in existence more than 100 years and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court on more than one occasion. The VFW has no position with respect to ERA, but a red flag went up when the President of the League of Women Voters stated in testimony that ERA would be used to attack veterans' preference. Indications are that ERA will again be brought up and, for the record, the VFW will oppose ERA with every resource at our disposal unless amended to exclude veterans preference and programs and, also, women from combat.

Mr. Chairman, one of the provisions of Public Law 98-160 expresses the sense of Congress that the Administrator of Veterans Affairs should be designated by the President as a member of the Cabinet and be the President's principal advisor on all matters pertaining to veterans, their dependents and survivors. Recently, Mr. Chairman, you wrote to the President urging that he submit to Congress legislation to establish a Department of Veterans Affairs. This has been the position of the VFW for years and our current Resolution No. 683 fully supports your meritorious effort. As Commander-in-Chief of the VFW, I will do everything possible to see that the Administrator holds a chair in the Cabinet.

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